



District Governor Debbie Meegan



District 6890 News

Friday, February 3, 2023

In This Issue

[DG Debbie Meegan's message for February](#)

[District 6890 Raises \\$57,529 for Disaster Relief](#)

[Ahoy! Last Call.](#)

[District Conference Sponsor Opportunities](#)

[What Do We Love About Rotary?](#)

[RLI - WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?](#)

[The Rotary Foundation Update](#)

[Together, We Can End Polio](#)

[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

DG Debbie Meegan's message for February

By Debbie Meegan



The month of February is very special in the Rotary calendar. Sure, it includes Superbowl Sunday and Valentine's Day but February also includes the **Anniversary of the very first Rotary meeting**. This meeting was held on February 23, 1905 and now that date has become known by Rotary International as **World Understanding and Peace Day**.

It is only fitting that the **Rotary Theme for February is Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution**.

As a humanitarian organization, peace is an important cornerstone of our Rotary mission. We believe when people work to create peace in their communities, that change can have a local and global effect.

How do we as District 6890 Rotarians help make a difference as peacekeepers?

- We aid refugees who have fled dangerous areas. In 2022 Rotarians donated millions of dollars in relief to help refugees from Ukraine and other war-torn countries and that relief is ongoing. Our District participated in a **Disaster Grant** that sent 4 desperately needed generators to hospitals in Ukraine so they could continue to treat the injured.
- We dedicate ourselves to addressing the underlying causes of conflict by relieving millions of people suffering from poverty, inequality, ethnic tensions, lack of access to education and unequal distribution of resources. Our District participates in projects that **build houses and libraries and provides surgeries** to children born with cleft palates.
- We **train adults and young leaders** to prevent and mediate conflict through our Rotary Peace Fellowship Program. Many of our **District Interact students** have opportunities to learn about the importance of Peacekeeping and how conflict resolution can change the future in our communities.



This year at our District Rotary Foundation Gala, we ended the evening by joining hands and singing "Let There be Peace on Earth". It was a very moving experience.

What a wonderful world it would truly be if all the world could unite and live out the words to that song... **Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.**

FEBRUARY IS PEACE AND CONFLICT PREVENTION/RESOLUTION MONTH



"It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it."

Eleanor Roosevelt



Duane Williams
District
Membership
Chair



Mark Gilbert
Scolnick
District
Rotary
Foundation
Chair



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

District 6890 Raises \$57,529 for Disaster Relief

By Winnie M. Marvel

Once a storm passes and we take down the storm shutters and clean up the tree limbs, it can be easy to forget those that are truly devastated by the direct impact. That is not what happened in Rotary District 6890. As Hurricane Ian passed, our District collected funds from every corner of our four counties to assist with cleanup and disaster relief. When all was accounted for, we had raised \$36,529 for Hurricane Ian relief!! That is a tremendous amount and I am so proud of the members of our District for supporting their friends and neighbors in this way!

This is how we found purpose with that money.

Back in October, we distributed \$15,000 directly to District 6960, which encompasses Charlotte county, Florida, the hardest hit area.

In the immediate aftermath of the storm, District Disaster Relief Chair, Kevin Kitto, sent out the call for volunteers to help with cleanup here at home in D6890. Also assisting with coordination of volunteers was Tonya Royal (RC of Hardee County) who was invaluable in the effort. Two dozen or more volunteers donated over 130 hours of their time to assist. \$13,449.65 was used for heavy equipment and supplies needed. \$5,000 has been distributed to The Faith Temple Ministries Church of God to offset expenses in their effort to help people of that area.

The last of the funds collected for Hurricane Ian were distributed to D6960 to help them in their continued effort to help the folks of Ft. Myers and the barrier islands of Charlotte county. (\$3,079.35.)

Also, as a small reminder, we also collected and distributed \$21,000 in disaster relief for Puerto Rico in November.

Thank you so much for all you do!! Rotarians are such a strong and dedicated group of caring people that do so much good in the world. This is how people are helped after a storm. You can call the Red Cross or FEMA but the ones who make a difference are right here, identifying and helping those who are in real need.

Total distributions in the 2022 storm season were \$57,529.

Ahoy! Last Call.

Ahoy Mateys!



Now is the time to book your
Cruise to the Caribbean!



Come join your fellow District 6890 Rotary Pirates as we take to the seas
March 27- April 1 from Tampa!

Don't miss out on the fun things we have planned for you on this
District Conference Cruise! Come get squiffy (pirate speak for slightly
drunk) at our pirate party with grog! There will be a pirate costume
contest, great inspirational speakers, and still lots of time in the sun
or the spa! We also plan to participate in a service project with
Rotarians in Cozumel. Imagine the possibilities for fun and
fellowship on board and in our ports of call!

Cabin choice and price are subject to availability!

<https://csherman.dreamvacationsgroups.com/index.html#/groups/10763769>



Linda N
Federspiel
District
Secretary



L. McQueen
Small
District
Treasurer



Winnie M.
Marvel
Newsletter
Editor



Nathan D
Marvel
DCO-District
Comm.
Officer



IMAGINE
ROTARY

Contact Craig Sherman at (863) 216-8666

District Conference Sponsor Opportunities

By Debbie Meegan

All Hands on Deck!

We have a wonderful opportunity for you to show your Rotary Support for our upcoming **District Cruise**. Even if you are not attending, it is a great way for you to **Be Present and Represented** at this fun filled event.

We are looking for Companies and Individuals who would like to advertise their Business while **showing support** of our Rotary District and activities.

Please contact me **as soon as possible** if you are interested in helping out. We would love to "SEE" you on board!

Sponsorship Opportunities
2023 District Conference



We are looking for Sponsors for our
District 6890 Imagination District Cruise

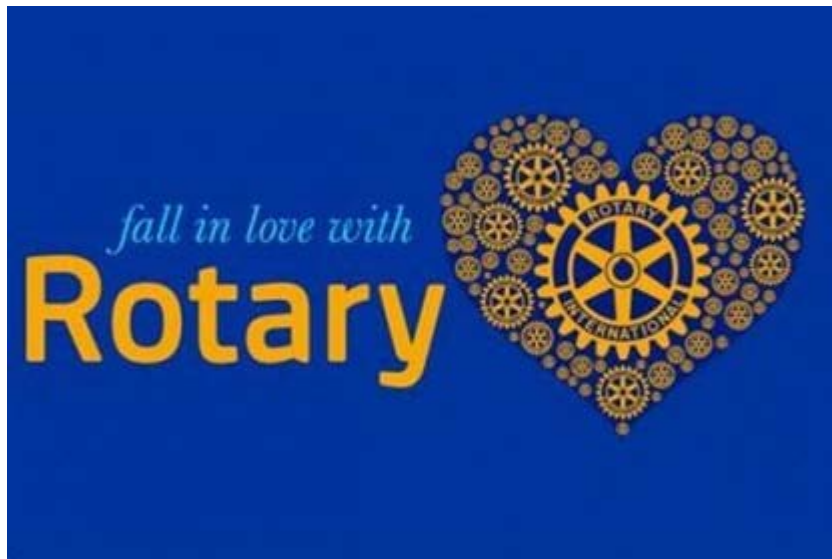
Walk the Plank \$750.00
Where's the Treasure \$500.00
Landlubber's Special \$250.00
Swashbuckler Special \$100.00

All sponsors will be featured on the back of our District Conference T-Shirt and will receive recognition at our meeting on board the Royal Caribbean Brilliance of the Seas as well as on our District Website and Facebook Page.

Yours in Rotary Service,
Debbie Meegan

What Do We Love About Rotary?

By Duane Williams



Okay, it's February so we're allowed to get a little bit huggy and kissy about Rotary. I was told the other day by a fellow Rotarian, that she didn't know how much she loved Rotary until COVID took it away from her - well the in-person part at least and many clubs still Zoom.

This got me thinking about what I love about Rotary, here's my top three. First, for me it's the fellowship and friendships Rotary has given me. The amazing people I have met from all over the world is my number one. Second is the fabulous things Rotarians achieve in helping others, from our attempts to eradicate a debilitating disease to individual acts of kindness, our reach is unequalled. Third is the wonderful opportunities Rotary has given me, opportunities to serve, which has allowed me to grow as a person. I am a better person for being in Rotary.

So having identified my top three, what should I do with this information. Simple - tell people why I love Rotary, particularly non-Rotarians. If each of us did this and managed to attract at least one new member each, just think what a difference that would make to our Clubs.

Building new Clubs is rightly receiving a lot of effort currently but let us not forget the need for growth and

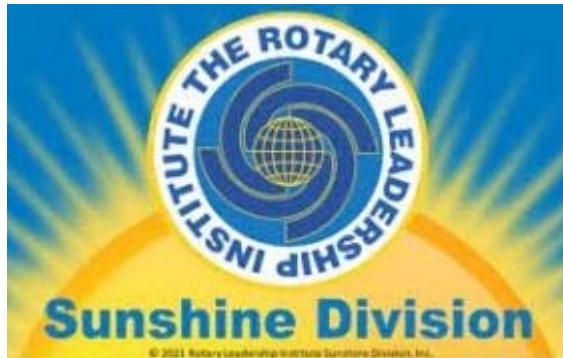
“new blood” in our existing Clubs, all part of our efforts to GROW ROTARY.



Duane Williams
District Membership Chair
Rotary District 6890

RLI – WHAT’S IN IT FOR ME?

By Irma Cole



Rotary Leadership Institute

Okay- show of hands...do you know what RLI is? Hmmmm.... yes, a few of you are waving at me right now! Great, but let's get more of you excited and on board. RLI stands for **Rotary Leadership Institute**. Here is their website rlitraining.org. There you will find class descriptions, a calendar of what classes are being given when and where, and lots more. I urge you to check it out!

RLI courses are not just for club officers! They are designed to provide leadership skills for all Rotarians while advancing Rotary knowledge and understanding. They can be taken online or in person. Either way, you will not only gain knowledge but make new friends as well! Anyone can take these classes, Rotarians, spouses, or Rotaractors who want to learn more about Rotary, those in leadership positions, those that want to become club or district leaders, etc. Some districts require these classes for their DGs! That is how good they are. Take a look at the current curriculum:

[Read More](#)

The Rotary Foundation Update

By Mark Gilbert Scolnick

By contributing to **The Rotary Foundation** you are increasing the funds available to your clubs for local projects. This is your contribution to the future of your Club and The Rotary Foundation. **Where does your money go? We support causes that advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty.**



It is also important to remember the help we provide in **Disaster Relief** whether it is hurricanes at home or in worn torn Ukraine. Our Clubs and District have directly helped brave people impacted during these stressful times. This past year we were part of a multi District Grant that purchased four generators for hospitals in Ukraine. Rotary International President Nominee Stephanie Urchick has asked me to remind you that it's very cold in Ukraine right now. People are living there without food and electricity, but we can still help.

We are getting ready for **President Elect Training (PETS)** in Orlando. Your President Elect will be asked to set **Club Goals** for next year and one of the goals is how much you will support The Rotary Foundation. The easiest way is to sign up for a monthly contribution. This is something you can do once and it is like the gift that keeps on giving. You can choose whatever amount you are comfortable with. This also helps your President Elect so they can easily see that amount in the calculation for the Goals for The Rotary Foundation for your Club. <https://www.rotary.org/en/donate>

[Read More](#)

Together, We Can End Polio

Collaboration amplifies impact! And together, we can eradicate polio for good We are so grateful to partner with the [Gates Foundation](#) and other GPEI partners to get us to the finish line. Donations to [End Polio Now](#) are currently being matched 2-to-1 by the Gates Foundation. Will you join us in the fight to [#endpolio](#)? <https://on.rotary.org/3s5gsm>

Watch video: <https://fb.watch/i2u0kOe-Oz/>



Together, We Can End Polio

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
