



August 2023

District 6960 Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM DISTRICT GOVERNOR ALFRED CURRENT

Family, friends, and fun. Rotary is **family**. Rotary is **friends**. Rotary is **fun**. Who wouldn't want to be included? Will you create hope in the world? I hope you will at least ask one person this year to experience the same joy you find among Rotarians. An active Rotarian makes their community better. High satisfaction, low stress. Fulfilled, not empty. Empowered, a hero. A friend, not lonely. Efficient and effective, leveraged. Connected, purpose driven.



August is 'Membership & New Club Development' month. Our District has two satellite clubs forming to share the gift of Rotary. 100 more Rotarians starting as friends, becoming family, and having fun! Consider this, 'Are you better off because you are a Rotarian?' If so, please share the joy and invite someone to take the journey with you. Give them hope and change the world by having one more person become a Rotarian doing good in the world.

Your servant governor,
Alfred

District Governor 2023-24
Rotary International District 6960

2022-23 District 6960 Rotary Foundation Team

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THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

by Jim Hinck, District 6960 Foundation Chair

Happy New Year District 6960 Rotarians!!!

My name is Jim Hinck, a proud member of the Rotary Club of Charlotte Harbor Sunset. I am honored and excited to be your District 6960 Rotary Foundation Chair. Together, we have an opportunity to do amazing things!

Join me in congratulating all Rotarians in District 6960 for their amazing generosity in 2022-2023. Together we achieved greatness as our District finished first in our Zone with close to \$1.4 million in total giving. As a District, D6960 finished 29th *in the world* in total giving. While these achievements set a very high bar, we must continue the momentum, and continue to do good in the world.

My personal thanks goes out to my dedicated and hardworking District Foundation Team members of 2022-2023. Together, they worked tirelessly throughout the year to educate and inform D6960 Rotarians on all things Rotary Foundation. Thank you PDG Pam Akins, PDG Tam Mustapha, PDG Steve Schlueter, Eldon Bohrofen, Erik Elsea, Tom Setchel, Doug Smoot, Cheryl Willett and Rich Willett. A special thank you to outgoing District Global Grant Chair PDG David Lusty, outgoing District Grant Chair Richard Hall and outgoing Major Donor Chair Suzanne Vasbinder. Finally, I would like to personally thank Immediate Past District Governor Neil Snyder for his leadership and support with our Foundation efforts in 2022-2023.

While the bar is set very high, we have a dynamic group of existing and new District Foundation Team members for this 2022-2023 Rotary year where we will build upon our District's success.

Joining the District Foundation Team this year are:

- Cindy Cedeno - District Grant Chair
- Julie Pedretti - District Global Grant Chair
- Nancy Ross - Wealth Transfer Chair
- PDG David Lusty - Major Donor Chair

You will find every team member on this page and their contact information. All of us are available to answer questions and present to your club with ample notice.

This 2023-2024 Rotary year, we are looking for every member in D6960 to achieve "Every Rotarian Every Year" status (EREY). EREY status is achieved when clubs during the Rotary year have:

- EVERY member of that club personally contributing at least \$25 to the Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund;
- The club's total TRF Annual Fund contribution averaging at least \$100 per capita

We are always taking applications for commitments to the The Paul Harris Society (PHS). PHS recognizes Rotary members and friends of The Rotary Foundation who contribute US\$1,000 or more each year to the Annual Fund, PolioPlus, or approved Foundation global grants. This year, we are looking for clubs in D6960 to make the commitment. Expect a special announcement on the Annual Fund-Share too.

Get your calendar out and SAVE THE DATE for the upcoming Foundation Dinner and Celebration on Saturday, February 17, 2024, held at the Venice Plantation Golf and Country Club. We are happy to share Past Rotary International President (2019-2020) and Chair-Elect of the Rotary Foundation (2023-2024) Mark Maloney will be our keynote speaker. New and veteran Rotarians will not want to miss this special evening! Also plan for World Polio Day on October 24th, and contact Cheryl and Rich Willett for more information on all things polio (information to left).

Looking forward to a great 2023-2024 Foundation year!

Yours in Rotary Service,
Jim



THE 2023-24 ROTARY
YEAR KICKS OFF

Rotarians, friends and family from around the District gathered to kick off the 2023-24 Rotary year at the District Cast Off party early July. There was great music, delicious food, and good times had by all.

Rotarians energetically cheered on Governor Alfred Current as he guides the District through the new Rotary year.


PHOTOS BY DON HAAKE

There's so many great photos, we couldn't fit them all here! Be sure to check out the rest from the kick off party and more at Rotary6960Photos.com

VIEW MORE
PHOTOS



AUGUST IS **MEMBERSHIP AND NEW CLUB DEVELOPMENT MONTH**



This month, we embrace the spirit of growth, and are reminded of the power of connection. When Rotarians from all walks of life, backgrounds, and professions unite for service above self, we Create Hope in the World. And when we welcome our community to be a part of our meetings, projects and events, our good goes further.

In August, we encourage you to discover new ways to share Rotary with your community and with the world. [Learn more.](#)

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE APPLICATIONS OPEN!

Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) has been one of Rotary's premier programs for more than 50 years. Students attend school for a full academic year in one of around 30 countries, living with host families, learning a new language, experiencing a different culture, and making great memories and lots of new friends from all over the world! They grow tremendously in maturity, independence, and self-confidence, and experience learning and living on their own. RYE is also a real door opener to the college admission process.



STUDENTS AGES 14-18 CAN APPLY HERE.

School officials may [click here to contact](#) District Outbound Coordinator Paul Blaine (Cell: 419-305-6224) for program information and help with the application.

We ask every club in District 6960 to invite students in your community to consider this amazing program. Please contact your local high school and Interact club to get the word out about RYE. Please don't let a well-qualified student in your area miss out on this truly life-changing opportunity! If you are interested in welcoming a recently returned student or District RYE Committee member speak club meeting, [click here to contact](#) District RYE Chair Mark Moody (Cell: 608-239-380).

Rotary Youth Exchange Gets Ready for 2023-24!

Our District 6960 RYE Team has been busy the past several months as we prepared for the arrival of the new inbound exchange students and the departure of outbound students. We bid farewell to the previous group of students and welcomed the return of our outbound students! It truly takes a dedicated team of Rotary volunteers with a passion for the RYE program. Our District RYE Team is second to none! Although it takes a lot of work, our efforts as volunteers are so rewarding and fun. It is such a joy to learn from our foreign exchange students as well as to hear all the stories and adventures and cultural experiences from our outbound students.



This upcoming school year, our District hosts seven foreign exchange students from Poland, Slovakia, Brazil, Japan, Germany, and two from France. Our five outbound students departed in July, heading to Spain, Japan, Brazil, Finland, and France. Our RYE Team could use additional volunteers to help with various aspects of the program.

[Click here to contact](#) District 6960 RYE Chair Mark Moody for more information.

Sanibel-Captiva Says So Long Trash!



Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Sanibel-Captiva beam with excitement as they get ready to catch their next "Road Kill." Rotarians have been cleaning garbage off the roads and bridges of Sanibel Island. What's different now is they're cleaning up whatever is needed on the Island, from debris off the beaches to the brush and trash off the CHR properties. With dedicated Rotarians taking the lead, little by little, Sanibel is coming back strong. Honk next time you see them! Or better yet, grab some gloves and join them! [Click here](#) to contact the club.

Tell Your Rotary Story!



Share the impactful work you and your club do with the District each month!

Celebrate your club and inspire others to service by sharing your club's projects. The District newsletter is *your* place to show your club's accomplishments.

Share 50 words or more and any pictures with your submission. Click the button or [contact](#) Ethan Wolfson to share your Rotary story.

[SUBMIT](#)

ROTARY EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUGUST

12TH

Rotary University Foundation, Membership and Public Image. [Details on DACdb.](#)

26TH

8:30 AM RLI North & South, parts I, II, III. Become a leader in your club and community through RLI. [Details on DACdb.](#)

27TH

9:30 AM Rotary Day at Mote Marine with Rotary Club of Bradenton Social Impact. [Details on DACdb.](#)

SEPTEMBER

9TH

8 AM

Marco Island Sunrise Golf Tournament. [Details on DACdb.](#)

30TH

2 PM Save the Date! District Team Training Seminar [Details on DACdb.](#)

Add your event to the DACdb calendar and tell Rotarians what's happening around the District!

[ADD EVENT](#)



**Rotary Club of Bradenton
Social Impact presents**

ROTARY DAY AT THE MOTE MARINE LABORATORY AQUARIUM



Sunday August 27th from 9:30am to 5:00pm

Bring the family and invite all your friends, our latest arrival time at 3:45pm. We are celebrating our 1st collaboration with an afternoon event for the whole family.

Meet us at the Rotary Club Booth in the Aquarium Courtyard!
Mention your Rotary club at the ticketing window for Rotary Day discount

MOTE SCIENCE EDUCATION AQUARIUM ADMISSION

Adults (ages 13 & older): \$20 (regular price is \$26) Youth (ages 3-12): \$17 (regular price is \$19) Children (ages 0-2): free
If you have any questions, feel free to contact Rotary Club of Bradenton Social Impact president, 612-432-0057.