

# Rotary



## Club of Franklin Daybreak

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### Club Leaders



Rick  
VanGilder  
iPast  
President  
President



Dale B. West  
President -  
Elect



Audrea  
Shields-Burch  
President -  
Nominee



Katelyn  
VanderWoude  
Secretary



Angela Dills  
Past  
President  
Treasurer



Billi J. Black  
Membership  
Chair  
Past  
President



Benjamin  
Joseph  
Rodriguez  
Past  
President  
Rotary  
Foundation  
Chair



Ronald F.  
Winecoff  
Sergeant-at-  
Arms



Luke H.  
Smith  
Community  
Service Chair



Lindsay  
Wright  
Club Public  
Image Chair

Fred Jones  
Diversity  
Equity &

## District Governor to visit Aug. 5



Wow! After four years of RI training and the mentorship of past DGs, and especially that of IPDG Connie Molland, I am already hitting the ground running as the new DG with Club installation invites galore! I won't be able to attend all your installations during this initial flurry of activity, but will be visiting the majority of you between now Sept. 25 as I've front-loaded my "official DG visits." **I'll be at the Franklin Daybreak Club meeting on Aug. 5.**

We had a very enjoyable District and Club Installation celebration in Marion on Saturday 28 June with close to 90 Rotarians, spouses and friends of Rotary present as we thanked Connie and introduced the Rotary Year '25-'26 District Leadership Team and all our Club Presidents. There will never be enough words to express our gratitude to Connie for her tireless and enduring work in our Hurricane Helene recovery and rebuilding effort. Instead



Inclusion  
Past  
President



Vicki  
Lawrence  
RYLA Point of  
Contact  
Interact Club  
Sponsor  
Past  
President  
Youth  
Protection  
Officer



Kristy Firkins  
Smith  
Club Admin  
Chair  
Past  
President

of the traditional “thank you” gavel, we created a custom plaque for Connie that substituted the gavel with crossed rakes and shovels to underscore the uniqueness of her tenure as DG, having stewarded over \$5 million in recovery funds and sweat equity into 7670 so far! As IPDG, Connie will remain heavily involved in our recovery efforts.

As we were all affected by Helene, many of the original District goals that Connie set were overcome by events. As the DG line continues our long-term planning, I’ve rolled many of her goals over into this new Rotary year as those goals remain a part of our overall objectives. We are already well underway in trying to reach the goal of 4 new Clubs and working towards the goal of at least 100 new members this year! Continue to raise funds for your Clubs and RI so we can continue to make an impact locally and globally! You’ll hear more about these topics during my club visits, but don’t wait – continue to recruit new Rotarians into all of our Clubs!

Here are a few important “save the dates” right away to put on your calendars:

- Saturday, 16 August, is our District Membership & Foundation Summit.
- 11 October is our next iteration of Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) courses,
- Friday 1 May 2026 is our one-day District Convention at the Tryon Equestrian Center.
- 13-17 June 2026 marks our next Rotary International Convention in Taipei, Taiwan!

Start saving now for RICON in Taipei! Registration is already open, and I hope we can get at least twenty-five 7670 folks to attend! Keep your eyes open for these events and more in our DACDB events calendar!

I am looking forward to meeting so many more of you, - not only during my official Club visits but also to any events you’d like me to attend in support of your Clubs, -- after all, that’s what the District Leadership Team and I are all about – supporting you and your Clubs to ensure our continued success! Be LOUD, Be Proud, Be Rotarian!

DG Alpo

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## Making meetings more fun



Rotary Club of Franklin Daybreak President Rick VanGilder led the club in a discussion regarding the things we can do to enhance membership including: expanding communication, engaging new members in activities, and making meetings more lively.

### Upcoming programs

Aug. 29 – Program Lindsay Wright (Honduras Missions update); Greeter Vicki Lawrence; 50/50 Dave Jones; Invocation Roger Plemens.

August 5 – Visit from District Governor Alpo Portelli.

### Save the Date – Got a Rotary Prospect?

August 26 – Discover Rotary with Billi Black

### Events

No Events found

### Birthdays



[Lindsay Wright](#)  
August 3rd



[Roger Plemens](#)  
August 14th

## Years of Service



[Fred Jones](#)  
22 Years