

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2022 NO MEETING

A Holiday Message from President Rick

“YES” WE CAN!

It seems like our Club has been moving at breakneck speed moving from one project to another since July 7th when I began my term as Rotary President. I was surprised to be asked to serve, but with a little bit of trepidation I said “YES.” Previous presidents encouraged me it would be the best year ever, and with half my year already over, they were right.

The word “YES” in Rotary really does have meaning. It started when my committee chairs said “YES” without hesitation demonstrating the Rotary motto of Service Above Self in action. It has continued in what we have achieved so far this year.

In September a Rotary Reunion was planned by five members who when asked said “YES.” Each was assigned the task of representing 60 plus members of their “class” to provide a mini program. The result was an innovative, fun, high energy afternoon that brought together members from 1956 to 2022. It was a demonstration of just how much our members are creative and entertaining!

Preparations for Operation Harvest began long before October 8th with the organizing of routes, recruiting volunteers to staple and deliver over 15,000 grocery bags to an equal number of doorsteps which were then picked up full of food. It required much preparation and member participation. The results were spectacular because members said “YES!”

Early in the year, planning began for the return of the live Rotary Dinner Auction. It all started with the co-chairs saying “YES” we’ll do it. The result was highly successful and “YES” we will announce the results at our January 5th meeting!

For over 20 years our Rotary club has committed to covering 96 Red Kettle shifts with a Rotary Bell Ringing Week. We started with a blank schedule and Rotarians continued to say “YES” with some even doing so at the last minute. The shifts were filled and substantial funds for community needs were raised.

We said “YES” to grants through our Allocation and Review Committee; responded with a “YES” when asked by the Literacy Committee for How To Books for the Juvenile Detention Facility to help provide their young detainees options for positive outcomes; said “YES” to reconnecting with high school students through Interact; “YES” to participating in Rotary’s Youth Exchange Program; and “YES” to starting a 3 Club project to provide additional lighting for extended use of facilities at Chesterley, Kiwanis, and Randall Parks.

And “YES”, I could keep writing, but there is much more to come in the next six months. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to lead our Club and to all of you who have said “YES, I’ll do it.” I wish you a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you on January 5th.

*Rick Fairbrook
President 2022-23*

FUTURE PROGRAMS

December 29th – No Meeting, Happy New Year

January 5th – Christine Cote, Perry Technical Institute

January 12th – To Be Determined

January 19th – Trevor Greene, Ties That Bind: Public Schools & Rotary

ROTARY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM – DECEMBER 15, 2022

