



October 2018 edition

# The Huntington Rotarian

*A huge welcome to our newest member, Russ Degitz! For those of you who don't know Russ, he is our Principal at Huntington North High School. He will be invited to do a classification talk so we can learn more about him.*

## John R. Kissinger, A Quiet Hero

John R. Kissinger. Most of you don't know the name. But most of you do know the name Walter Reed. We named a hospital after him.

A soldier, Kissinger was the first of many volunteers who worked with Dr. Reed on experiments to prove that mosquitos were somehow involved in the cause of yellow fever. He allowed himself to be bitten by the suspected mosquito to provide that proof. Dr. Reed's work, with the help of men like Kissinger, helped make possible the completion of the Panama Canal, which still saves many hundreds of miles on the ocean trip linking the east and west coasts of our country.

Eight men died during those turn-of-the-century experiments but John Kissinger lived and supposedly was a well man when he left the army. Later he became almost completely helpless and was nearly destitute. A special act of congress granted him a pension of \$100 per month. Out of gratitude for his work in those important experiments, friends raised enough money to build a house for Kissinger and his

family at 625 Flaxmill Road in Huntington. He lived there from 1927 until he moved to the Lafayette Soldiers home in 1943.

A historical marker, honoring Kissinger, is located on the grounds of Parkview Huntington Hospital. (The first Rotarian to find the error on the marker gets a free second dessert at the next meeting.)

John Kissinger was a true American Hero. Walter Reed said of him, "No more courageous act than his has ever been recorded in the annals of the United States Army." He was to be paid \$250 as a volunteer but refused it, saying, that he wished to do it in the interest of science and humanity.

John H. Kissinger was an honorary member of this Rotary Club from 1937 to 1943. He died in 1946.

*-Article written by Mel Ring*



1st	Holly Saunders	21st	Chris Fleck
13th	Dave Mettler	21st	Michael Howell
16th	Randy Sizemore		



Our newest youth initiative kicked off with an overnight retreat in August. We were to have nine kids and only three showed up. While the numbers might have disappointed, the experience with the students did not. In a follow-up with all the students that were to participate, we realized one had moved away, one has been temporarily relocated and one student has chosen not to participate. If you're doing your math, that leaves us with six. At our first regular Club STRIVE meeting in September, all six of those students were in attendance thanks to the efforts of our middle school principals and Chad Daugherty.

Adam Drummond led this session and the focus was centralized around the importance of organizing and doing their homework in a timely fashion. This might not sound like much but if you were one of the Rotarians present, it truly resonated in how much these kids need this type of help and support. All have different stories and different backgrounds but share one important common thread, they just need additional support. A huge thank you to those Rotarians who have helped thus far; Adam Drummond, Chad Daugherty, Russ Degitz, Joe Santa, Jennifer Goff and Pat Brown. This program will be a great success due to the efforts of our Rotarians.

## India Rotary Friendship Exchange

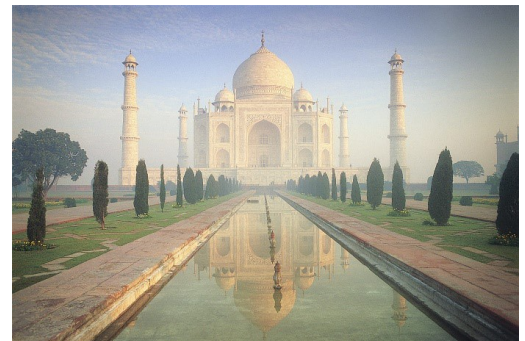
January, 2019

If you are a world traveler, or dream of becoming a world traveler, a visit to India is probably high on your wish list. Now is your chance to see the real India, staying in the homes of Rotarians and experiencing an ancient culture. You will never meet more hospitable people, laugh more, eat better food (no, it's not too spicy), be in more selfies, or see more unbelievable sights than in India! Flights to India and traveling within India is very affordable.

We are exchanging with District 3261 in Central India, with the largest city being Raipur. Side trips will include Delhi, the Taj Mahal, and much more.

**Five spots still remain for individuals or couples to join the Friendship Exchange.** In May 2019, our new friends from India will come to District 6540 to visit us.

For more information on what it's like to visit India, contact Holli Seabury at 260-760-4831 or [holliseabury@gmail.com](mailto:holliseabury@gmail.com)



## READING BUDDIES



Reading Buddies has been a Rotarian activity for many years. It is a very rewarding experience to be able to work with the 1st graders at Lincoln Elementary. If you haven't already, I encourage you to volunteer your time for this cause. A huge thanks to our program chair, Billy Winter, and everyone who is participating or has participated in the past. Below is the schedule for this year and a reminder it will begin the week of September 24th so it's not too late to sign up!

\*Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Fridays

\*9:15am - 9:45am or 12:00pm - 12:30pm or 2:30pm - 3:00pm

\*Lunch is from 12:30pm - 12:55pm if you would like to join them during lunch sometime

# October 2018

Economic & Community Development  
Program Chair: Lori Mickley

# Rotary



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 STRIVE 2:15	2 Rotary Day Kyle Metzger	3	4	5 Foundation Dinner	6
7	8	9 Marshall Sanders- SCORE One for Huntington	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Chris Camp, Bendix— What is Remanufacturing?	17	18	19	20
21	22 Board Meeting 5:15	23 Kendall Mickley, County Council Local Gov't Finances	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Interact Day	31			