

# APRIL NEWSLETTER



## *One LAST Chance*

**DISTRICT CONFERENCE  
CLEVELAND, OH  
MAY 12-14, 2023**

I know - life happens - but don't let this Rotary opportunity pass you by.

District Conferences are a chance for Rotarians and clubs to celebrate the year's accomplishments, learn something new, visit with old friends and meet new ones, have a chance to explore and learn more about a new area. My first conference was at Kalahari Conference center - it was a bit overwhelming, a bit over the top, and I knew less than five people. A short time later, I now get so excited to see where and when the next conference will be held so that I can save the date on my calendar. I see Rotarians from other clubs that I don't have a chance to see on a regular basis. I learn something that I never knew. And I laugh! which in today's world is something to celebrate.

So - as your District Governor, I ask one last time - please consider joining us in Cleveland. Even if it is only for one day! I promise, you will hear from quality speakers, you will meet amazing people, you will have fun, you will laugh and you just might learn something new that will benefit your personal and professional persona.

*Diana Savage, District Governor 6600*

## *UPCOMING EVENTS*

APRIL 22 - District  
Assembly Training

APRIL 22 - STRIVE  
Interviews at District  
Assembly

APRIL 22 - 4 Way Speech  
Contest, Van Wert

APRIL 26 - Interact  
Conference, Ashland

APRIL 29 - RLI Training,  
Level 3, Fremont Rotary  
Lodge

# District Assembly - April 22

*Throughout my journey as District Governor, I have heard two statements over and over. First, "I wish that there was an opportunity to learn more about what is going on in our District". Second, "I wish that there were some trainings offered to members". Well - here is your chance for both! The District Assembly provides training for club officers. It provides access to information that will support the good work our clubs do each Rotary year. So - if you haven't already - please register and plan to attend! It will be well worth your time!*



**WHAT:** District 6600 Assembly -Free Training for Club Board officers & directors and any member who wants to learn more about Rotary.

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 22, 2023

9 AM Registration - Continental Breakfast

9:30 Training Begins

12:00 Club Presidents-Elect Vote on 2023-2024 District Budget

12:30 Wrap up

**WHO** should Attend?

All club leaders but especially Presidents, Presidents-Elect, current and incoming Secretaries, Treasurers, Public Image Chairs, Membership Chairs, Grant Chairs, Rotary Foundation Chairs and others who want to learn more about Rotary. Our goal is that at least two members from each club in the district will attend.

**WHAT** is on the Agenda? General and breakout sessions:

- 1) Deep-dive into the District Grant Process. **Deadline for 2023-2024 grant applications will be June 30, 2023.** Learn what your club needs to do to apply for a District Grant. Also, information about The Rotary Foundation, and why donations to the RI Foundation help to fund the District grant process.
- 2) Training for Club Secretaries and Treasurers on DACdb. From a novice to an experienced user, learn what you need to know to effectively manage and communicate with your Club members on DACdb.
- 3) Membership - why the care and comfort of our members, and being attractive to prospective members is critical to our clubs' success. Learn about RI's membership lead process. Brainstorm with other club leaders about what they are doing successfully in the membership arena.
- 4) Public Image - Expand the reach of your club by effectively getting your message out to the community through social media and press releases. Branding guidelines, easy-to-use software to promote your club, and other resources will be discussed and shared.

District leaders from MESA, Rotary Youth Exchange and the Environment & Sustainability Committees will be on hand to answer questions and provide information to attendees on what the district is doing in each of these areas. In addition, STRIVE Scholarship interviews will be held concurrently at the Sentinel Career Center. There is no cost to attend, but registration is important so we know how many people to plan for.

**Register on DACdb at the District Calendar, or email Sharon Trabbic at [sharon@trabbic.com](mailto:sharon@trabbic.com) to be added to the registration list.**

## *District Conference Speaker Line UP*

JOHN HEWKO - ROTARY  
INTERNATIONAL GENERAL  
SECRETARY AND CEO,  
MEMBER OF ROTARY CLUB  
OF UKRAINE

LEE ALVERSON - AWARD  
WINNING

SINGER/SONGWRITER

BETH STUBBS - INCOMING  
DIRECTOR FOR ROTARY  
ZONE 30/31

KEVIN KELLY - ROTARY  
INTERNATIONAL  
FOUNDATION OFFICER  
MIQUETTE MCMAHON -  
FORMER YOUTH EXCHANGE  
STUDENT, VERMILION  
ROTARY CLUB

DUSTIN DALE - AUTHOR,  
SPEAKER, REYNOLDS  
CORNERS ROTARY CLUB  
CONTINGENCY OF ST.  
VINCENT ROTARY CLUB  
MEMBERS

MESA UPDATES FROM PDG  
GARY NEWTON  
YOUTH EXCHANGE  
STUDENTS - INBOUND AND  
OUTBOUND

## **MESA Treasurer Opening**

MESA Treasurer Jerry Peacock is retiring! Thank you for your many years of service Jerry!

MESA is in need of a new treasurer - someone who has a background in non-profit accounting preferred, not required. Approximately 5 hours per week, more time required during the annual fundraiser. Please reach out to a District leader to find out more!

## *MESA UPDATE and REQUEST*

### **PDG GARY NEWTON, MESA CHAIR**

I want to take a moment to update you on what is happening with Medical Equipment & Supplies Abroad (MESA). MESA is District 6600's premier international service project in its 42nd year. This Rotary year is one of the most exciting in MESA's history. Our goal as the year began was to make 12 shipments of 40 foot intermodal containers to areas of the world in great need of equipment and supplies. To date we have shipped 21 containers. Seven of these have gone to Poland and Ukraine, and we have assisted with partners on 25 additional shipments to the Ukraine. We have been able to accomplish these shipments by partnering with several Rotary Clubs around the world and other partners to cover part of the shipping expenses. We have accomplished much with few resources.

We have a major need and are asking for your help. MESA has two trucks which bring about 99% of the items that we collect to the MESA warehouse. Those trucks are 18 and 22 years old with a combined 600,000 miles of service. They are failing apart. Our large 26 foot truck was rear-ended last year, and declared totaled by our insurance carrier. We bought the truck from the insurance company for \$4,000 on a salvage title. After repairs, we have \$17,000 in insurance proceeds to start our truck fund. The total cost to upgrade our two trucks (a 16 foot and a 26 foot) to approximately 2017 models would be \$120,000. Thanks to the generosity of the New Bremen/New Knoxville, Maumee, and St. Marys Rotary Clubs and generous Rotarians we have raised an additional \$50,000+ bringing us past halfway to our goal. We need to replace both trucks before next winter. Without these tools, it would be impossible to fulfill MESA's mission to help those in need around the world.

This Rotary year we have made shipments to Mexico, Belize, Panama, St. Vincent, Lebanon, Poland and Ukraine. 99% of those items arrived at our warehouse on our trucks. Please, help us continue to help those in need. We are asking for a special contribution to MESA's truck fund. Your contribution can be made in this Rotary year or early in the next Rotary year. If there are Rotarians in your Club who would like to take part in this project, we will gladly accept their support.

We will give an update on this project at the District Conference in Cleveland, May 12-14, 2023. Registration is open for partial or the full Conference. We hope to see you in Cleveland.

If your Club would like more information we would be glad to present a MESA program at your Club. In addition, we need volunteers, donations of equipment and supplies, and good used clothes (including outerwear) which we use as packing and is then distributed along with the equipment and supplies.

Your contributions can be made payable to MESA and sent to:

Jerry Peacock, Treasurer  
Medical Equipment & Supplies Abroad  
1092 Bending Brook Ln.  
Waterville, OH, 43566-1612

*Thank you in advance for your support which will allow MESA to keep  
the wheels rolling.*





# THE POWER IS ON YOUR **PLATE** TO HELP STOP CLIMATE CHANGE.



FOR A GUIDED JOURNEY TOWARD BETTER  
PERSONAL AND PLANETARY HEALTH  
JOIN

## THE ESRAG 15 DAY PLANT-RICH DIET CHALLENGE STARTING ON EARTH DAY APRIL 22, 2023

Receive a starter kit & cookbook, daily emails, practical tips,  
expert speaker series, cooking demonstrations & more!

Register [here](#) for the challenge

Watch 5 min video



[tinyurl.com/5minutestochangeyourworld](https://tinyurl.com/5minutestochangeyourworld)

**"Plant-Rich Diets hold enormous potential for climate change  
mitigation if adopted on a global scale."**

Project Drawdown, ESRAG partner