



Be a Gift to the World

District 6840 Newsletter

January 2016



Governor John Cornwell's Message



Can you think of a better way to start the New Year than by enjoying Rotary? Well enjoy January because it will certainly be a very busy Rotary month for our district. International Assembly, Paul Harris Gala, Mid-Year Checkup, Lunches for Learning team visit, and RLI appear on the schedule.

DGE Randy Feldman will travel to San Diego for Rotary's annual training meeting. The assembly was a once in a lifetime experience for me. Every new governor from every district in the Rotary world will be in attendance. It is a wonderful opportunity to share, learn, and enjoy Rotary. Of course Randy will be the only Rotarian from our district attending the assembly but we will all benefit from his experience in a short six months.

Our annual Paul Harris Gala, on January 8, 2015, will honor Rotarians who have pledged to make an annual contribution of \$1000 to the Foundation. Everyone is invited and it promises to be a fun evening.

The following morning, January 9, 2015, clubs from all over the district will assemble for Mid-Year Check-Up. Mid-Year provides a unique opportunity to brag about your projects while at the same time picking up some ideas for new ones. Our Youth exchange team will also be on hand to train host families and other Rotarians wishing to participate in the program in some manner. Our Youth Exchange Program is one of the best. If you are looking for a program to engage your club this could be it.

The Lunches for Learning team from Honduras will arrive January 6, 2016. The team will attend the Paul Harris Gala and Mid-Year Checkup providing another reason to attend those events.

At the end of the Month another RLI session is scheduled for Rotarians in the District wishing to learn more about Rotary and perhaps prepare themselves to become district leaders.

There's a lot going on in January. Come out and enjoy Rotary.

John Cornwell- District Governor 2015 - 2016

Upcoming Dates

2015 – 2016 Rotary Leadership Institute

Our district is making plans to continue building leaders and increasing Rotary knowledge via Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI). RLI is an international program with a Rotary-centric curriculum aimed at giving Rotarians the tool to be better Rotarians and get more out of Rotary. RLI is composed of three sessions, with topics covering membership, leadership, the Rotary Foundation, grants, public relations, and other great topics. In order to graduate from RLI, one must attend all three sessions. It is not mandatory that all three sessions be attended in the same Rotary year.

The tentative schedule for RLI sessions in the coming year is:

January 23 – Sessions II & III

April 23 – Sessions I & III

**Make plans to join RLI and get more out of
Rotary. You won't be disappointed!**

January 8, 2016 — Paul Harris Gala
Great Southern Yacht Club
Gulfport, MS.

January 9, 2016—Mid-Year Checkup
Bay Waveland Yacht Club

April 7-10 , 2016—District Conference
Island View Casino
Gulfport, MS

**see next page for all details*

Club & District News

Annual Fund Giving 2015-2016

The Annual Fund giving for District 6840 is down for the current Rotary year; \$62,566 as compared to \$78,771 for the same time last year. Now is the time to make your donations to The Rotary Foundation to get your tax deductions for 2015. Half of your contributions come back to the district in three years in the form of District Designated Funds (DDF). DDF is what funds your local club projects in the form of District Grants. DDF also funds major international projects that our district participates in, such as mammography vans in India, Lunches for Learning in Honduras, water tanks in Mexico, and sanitation networks in Egypt.

Only 28 of our district's 52 clubs have made any contributions to the Annual Fund this year. Only 17 of those 52 clubs have submitted Annual Fund goals to rotary.org. Four clubs have already exceeded the yearly \$100 per capita goal for the district:

Covington	\$259.17 Annual Fund per capita
West Bank	\$141.33
Algiers	\$130.00
NO Riverbend	\$125.00

Two key district events are coming up the weekend after New Year:

The Paul Harris Society Gala, Friday, January 8. This festive event honors those who have made significant contributions to The Rotary Foundation. All are invited. Register on the district website, www.rotary6840.org. The elegant dinner is held in the Great Southern Club on the 15th floor of the Hancock Building, Gulfport, MS.

The Mid Year Checkup, Saturday, January 9. Each club has two minutes to brag about their accomplishments over the past six months. You will get updates on other district initiatives, such as Youth Exchange, Friends Forever, and Friendship Exchanges with Canada and Russia.. The event will take place in the Bay Waveland Yacht Club, Bay St. Louis, MS, beginning at 8:30 am, and concluding with lunch. No cost. Register on the district website.

Yours in Rotary Service,
DGND Ken Thompson (2018-2019)
Annual Fund Chair

DON'T FORGET

The Monthly attendance reports are due. They should come to the district secretary not later than the fifth day after the last meeting of the month. Please be prompt so I can get my report in on time.

Please send this to myself, the district secretary (Gill Miller) at norler@cbleone.net.
If you have any questions, please contact me.

Club & District News

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE TRAINING AT MID-YEAR CHECK-UP SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR INTERACT SPONSORS and NEW CLUB YOUTH EXCHANGE OFFICERS

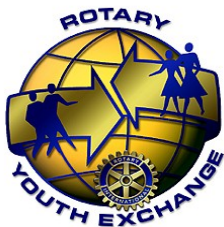
District 6840 Youth Exchange will hold a training session about how to manage Rotary Youth Exchange at the Club Level in a session concurrent with the Mid Year Check up on Saturday, January 9.

Participants should arrive by 9am and plan to stay through noon. Rotarians should register on-line using the District site.

Bay Waveland Yacht Club
1 Yacht Club Drive
Bay St. Louis , MS 39520

We ask that all clubs select a Youth Exchange Officer to represent the club at this session. We will answer "All Things Youth Exchange" and help arm your clubs with what you need to begin to recruit students from your communities to apply as Rotary Goodwill Ambassadors and win the Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship to spend one high school year abroad.

The District RYE Committee does not have the capacity to reach directly into high schools -- this must be done at the Club level. However, we will open this training session up to Interact Club Sponsors in addition to Club Youth Exchange Officers. ***Please reach out directly to the high school sponsor or your Interact Clubs and invite them to the January 9 session.*** As a collection of communities, we need to increase knowledge about the Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship within our schools so the students of Mississippi and Louisiana can participate in this incredible program. Information about Rotary Youth Exchange and the Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship can be found on-line under the Youth Exchange tab on the District website. **High school students interested in applying should send an inquiry to: RYE6840Scholarship@gmail.com**



Rotary
District 6840

