



June 2023

# CLUB NEWSLETTER

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## Meet our Club's New President

**Dr. Robert Steinberg** was installed by PDG Lyle Staab as our club's 2023-2024 President at the Continental Restaurant in Buffalo Grove, on Thursday, June 22. The evening was attended by current Club President, Ellen Young who presented Dr. Robert with a new Gavel; Lyle and AnnMarie Staab, Jim and Colleen Wales, AG Richard Brill, Sandy Smiley, Happie Datt and her husband Jay, Doris Lim, Cristina Anez, Dessie Panomitros, Rebecca Tanaka, and Marianna Zeidler. Installed new officers included Rebecca as President Elect, Ellen as Secretary, Dessie as International Service Chair and Marianna as Public Relations. Katherine Buggenhagen will continue as Treasurer.



Rebecca awarded apple tree seeds to club members that made a difference in the last 3 years.

## Club Leaders

*President:*  
Ellen Young

*President Elect:*  
Dr. Robert Steinberg

*Secretary:*  
Rebecca Tanaka

*Treasurer:*  
Katherine Buggenhagen

*Membership:*  
Dr. Robert Steinberg

*Community Service*  
Steve Kutschat

*International Service*  
Raman Grover

*Rotary Foundation*  
Jenny Wojcik

*Website Coordinator*  
Marianna Zeidler



## Club's DDF Allocation

Club President Elect, Dr. Robert Steinberg and Club President Ellen Young worked with the District Grants Committee to allocate our club's eligibility of \$1,350 DDF [District Designated Funds] towards two project areas as follows: \$850 to match cash funds from the Glenview Sunrise Rotary to be sent to the Vista Hermosa Rotary club in Guatemala to cover additional expenses sprouting from a Hydroponic Global Grant Project recently closed. The remainder \$500 will be used for Shelter Box.

## D6440 Installation Dinner

The Rotary year starts on July 1st every year and runs until June 30th. Rotary Leadership changes at all levels; from a new Rotary International President, R. Gordon R. McNalli, to a new District Governor, Mary Bak, to a new Club President, who in our case will be Dr. Robert Steinberg. The D6440 Installation event will be held on Wednesday, June 28th at The Glen Club, 2901 W. Lake Ave | Glenview | Cost is \$65 per person. RSVP at [rotary6440.org](http://rotary6440.org).



Rotary International  
Presidential Theme for 2023-2024

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**Plan for the next 2024 Rotary International Convention in Singapore May 25 – 29, 2024**



## Hydroponics: A Soiless Future From Phalarope.org |Christina Lee



### Hydroponic Farming: Food Security in Guatemala

Essentially, a hydroponic system is a sustainable method that grows high-yield crops using water and nutrients – without requiring soil. The root system replaces soil and is supported using an inert medium such as perlite, rock wool, clay pellets, or peat moss. The purpose of hydroponics is to allow the plant's root to grow properly in a water-based, nutrient-rich solution, while also having access to oxygen.

In the past forty years, droughts have impacted more of the world's population than any other natural disaster. Agriculture, a sector that supports forty-percent of the world population's primary livelihoods, suffers from the increasing intensity and occurrence of droughts. According to Diego Recalde, director of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Guatemala, the steady growth rate of mass migration due to food insecurity and drought is reflecting the fact that the country has been suffering from a climate change-induced crisis for some time. Increasingly erratic climate conditions have made the country vulnerable: failed harvests year after year, unstable work opportunities, and forcing people to move in the efforts to escape food insecurity and poverty. According to the World Food Program, nearly fifty-percent of children under five-years-old are considered chronically malnourished in Guatemala, a measure that peaks to ninety-percent or higher in many rural areas.

In response to this crisis, innovative and cost-effective initiatives of hydroponic farming have been introduced to improve food security. Since hydroponic systems do not rely on soil and use water more efficiently than traditional agricultural production methods, using this method of systems support crops in drought-stricken areas with poor soil conditions. The possibility for greater crop yields means that this sustainable farming method can fight hunger by combating food insecurity and improving the quality of lives of low-income farmers and families. The Dry Corridor of Guatemala, stretches from Southern Mexico down to Panama. These areas suffer from severe inclement weather due to El Niño and are the most prone to drought or extreme precipitation. Therefore, alternate agricultural practices are needed. There are currently several projects that, for example, involve building schools of hydroponics in Guatemala in rural Guatemala. Farmers are trained to establish their own agricultural businesses in partnership with the local leadership. Projects expand to the adjacent communities in the Dry Corridor. *Learn more: You Tube: [https://youtu.be/\\_aFxlINMOH4](https://youtu.be/_aFxlINMOH4)*

**Doris Lim and Marianna Zeidler** are already gearing up for the **2024 R.I. Convention in Singapore**, to take place May 25-29, 2024. Apart from participating in International Service Projects, Rotary International Conventions do bring the "international" nature of our organization. Rotarians from all over the globe gather and share not only their culture, but their projects, their ways, their language, and approaches to service. Rotary is not only about a club; there are Rotary Action Groups, Rotary Fellowships, Rotary Friendship Exchanges, Rotary Initiatives and Global Organizations that share the vision and collaborate with Rotary Programs.

## District 6440 Chairs

Our club has a couple of members that are among our D6440 Leadership. PE Dr. Robert Steinberg is D6440 International Service Chair. He promotes, coordinates and shares all international service activities that our Rotary District supports and tries to keep abreast of other clubs' participation in Global Grant Projects. He can also provide information on Rotary Friendship Exchanges, Hands-On Project Trips and more ... ! Marianna Zeidler is D6440 Annual Fund Communications, RI Convention Promotion, and District Directory Chair. Ask her about how the Rotary Foundation can match the funds your raise for a project. The Rotary International Convention is being held this year in Melbourne, Australia. Next year, it will take place in Singapore, and in 2025, we will meet in Calgary, Canada. Start planning, and let's go and meet our Rotary Global Family!!!



## Rotary Zone 29

Clubs are organized into Districts, and Districts are part of Rotary Zones. All Zones report to Rotary International Our District 6440 is in Zone 29. Our current Club President Ellen Young has also a position within Zone 29 – Her title is Assistant Coordinator for the Regional Rotary Foundation working under Rich Kaye, in charge of Districts 6420, 6440 and 6450.

Ellen Young is a Senior Rotarian who has had already committed a number years to promote Rotary activities, and The Rotary Foundation above all. In addition to having been President and member of a number of other clubs in the past, she was also District 6440 Governor during the Rotary Year 2014-2015. Ellen as well as her husband Chris are Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation. Ellen continues to advocate for the mission of Rotary wherever her imagination takes her. One of her current ideas involves the promotion of Rotary within the Peace Corps and their sites.

## Executive Director, Cassy Horton Speakes to our Club July 13, 2023

Pickles Group's mission is to provide free peer-to-peer support and resources to kids affected by their parent or guardian's cancer.

Having a parent with cancer can be a lonely, isolating experience. Pickles Group creates thriving communities of kids supporting kids through and beyond their parent's cancer journeys. Pickles kids strengthen resilience, have fun with friends who get them, and heal along the way.

One in twenty kids will experience a parent's cancer diagnosis before they graduate high school. With more than 3 million children and teens in the U.S. who are affected, there is an overwhelming need for the support we provide.

Cassandra (Cassy) is a nonprofit leader who has devoted her career to improving outcomes for kids. For a decade, she championed the needs of 130,000 students from all walks of life attending over 250 Los Angeles-area nonprofit charter public schools. As Vice President of Local Advocacy for the California Charter Schools Association, Cassy and her team worked closely with public officials, educators, parents and community organizations to advocate for policies ensuring that students received the academic, socio-emotional and financial support they need. Previously, she managed program and fundraising work at Los Angeles Team Mentoring, an afterschool program for middle-school kids from under-resourced communities.

Cassy received her bachelor's degree in political science and public affairs from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her MBA in Entrepreneurship, Strategic Management, and Behavioral Science from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. At Booth she was a member of the selective Neubauer Civic Scholars Program for nonprofit and government professionals and received the Rustandy Center's 2022 Social Impact Leadership Award. She has served on the boards of the youth-focused nonprofits DYI Girls and 9Dots and is part of the Downtown Women's Center Leadership Circle. Outside of work, Cassy spends her time playing rec-league volleyball and taking weekend road trips.



**Pickles.org**

**Kids  
Supporting  
Kids**

**P**ersevere  
**I**lluminate  
**C**onnect  
**K**indle  
**L**earn  
**E**mpower  
**S**upport