

## Upcoming Events

### [RYLA 2019 - Volunteer Registration](#)

Jan 10, 2019 6:00 PM –  
Jan 13, 2019 3:00 PM

### [Camp RYLA Weekend Retreat](#)

Jan 11, 2019 – Jan 13, 2019

### [RYLA 2019 - Student Registration](#)

Jan 11, 2019 6:00 PM –  
Jan 13, 2019 3:00 PM

### [International Assembly](#)

Jan 12, 2019 – Jan 19, 2019

### [SCRYE Winter Meeting](#)

Jan 25, 2019 – Jan 27, 2019

### [Rotary Peace Conference](#)

Feb 09, 2019

### [Mid Year/Pre-PETS Video Conferences](#)

Feb 16, 2019

### [2nd Long Term Outbound Orientation meeting](#)

Feb 23, 2019 – Feb 24, 2019

### [Anniversary of Founding of Rotary International](#)

Feb 23, 2019

### [Lone Star Presidents-Elect Training Seminar \(PETS\)](#)

Feb 28, 2019 – Mar 03, 2019

### [District Roll of Fame Nominations Due](#)

Mar 01, 2019

### [NAYEN Conference](#)

Mar 14, 2019 – Mar 17, 2019



## District 5910 News

January 2019

### John Hathaway

Rotary Club of the Woodlands  
District Governor 2018-2019  
Rotary District 5910



## Stories

### [From the Governor's Desk](#)

Fellow Rotarians and Friends:

Our Rotary Year is half over and I've got good news and bad news to report on the state of the District.

Let me get the bad news out of the way:

- Due to a misunderstanding with the hotel, the Peace Conference can no longer be held at the Hyatt in downtown Houston on February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Our District's Annual Fund giving to the Rotary Foundation stands at just \$23 per member (the last 2 years were each in excess of \$126!) and 17 clubs have yet to give anything.

Here's the good news:

- The Peace Conference, together with a joint District 5890/5910 all club Peace Gala dinner, will be held as a one day event on February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel next to NRG Stadium in Houston. I will soon be sending information to each of our presidents encouraging them to sign up for a club table at the Gala and further information will be forthcoming as to how an individual may register.
- We have raised over \$135,000 for the Polio Plus campaign. I want to thank all who have contributed so far but need to reiterate that a gift to Polio Plus should not take the place of a club's giving to the Annual Fund.
- Our planning for the District Conference to be held on April 5-7 is moving ahead and online registration should be open soon after you read this newsletter.

I wish everyone the happiest of New Years!

Your Governor,  
John Hathaway



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## Governor's Challenge

### LET'S SHAVE THE GOVERNOR AND END POLIO!



Have you wondered what Santa Claus would look like without a beard? Now you have a chance to find out.

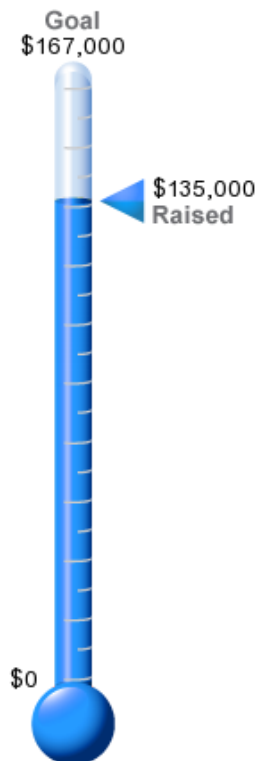
Your District Governor, who stands in for the jolly old elf each Christmas, has agreed to have his beard shaved off at the 2019 District Conference next April *if* contributions from Clubs and individuals in the District to the Polio Plus campaign equal

or exceed \$167,000 by that time.

With a local match of dollar-for-dollar (up to \$175,000) and the Bill and Melinda Gates two-for-one match, a contribution in that amount will result in \$1,000,000 being raised to continue our effort to eradicate Polio!

*Please* understand that this is *not* a request to transfer your contributions to the Rotary Foundation from the Annual Fund to Polio Plus as we still need to meet our future obligations to other Rotary charitable activities such as District and Global Grants and Global Scholarships.

**Watch the fundraising thermometer to see how close the shave might be!**



Provided by  
CoolFundraisingIdeas.net

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Service Rocks!

**Happy New Year!**

Did you see the Rotary International float in the Rose Parade? With the theme "Service Rocks!" and thousands of viewers at the parade and watching on television, what a great way of marketing the Rotary message of service!



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### Membership Minute

Have you read the Rotary International Membership Minute for December 2018. Access the full version by linking here: <http://rotary.msgfocus.com/q/1f8BE013eYQvb5CcyRqXnVV/wv>



**Membership Minute is a bimonthly newsletter that provides the latest membership trends, strategies, best practices, and resources to help strengthen membership in your clubs. The newsletter is sent to Rotary coordinators, district governors, district membership chairs, club membership chairs, club presidents and subscribers. Please forward this to anyone who may be interested.**

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District Training Committee

#### ***Update from Your District Training Committee***

**District Training Schedule  
February – May, 2019**

#### **District Leadership Team Training**

**When:** Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019 *(Tentative times: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm)*

**Who:** 2019-20 district chairs and assistant governors

**Where:** Location TBA

**Why:** This is a Rotary-mandated training for the upcoming year's leadership team. We will focus on the next year's theme, goals, and plans for how to accomplish them. We will also include plenty of time for team building and fellowship.



*More details will follow shortly.*

### **Pre-PETS**

In an effort to reduce the number of times between February and May that district Rotarians have to travel long distances for district meetings, we are trying a new approach with Pre-PETS:

All 2019 Pre-PETS meetings will be by videoconference:

- Governor John will have a videoconference with the current presidents and AGs on Saturday, Feb. 16 as noted in the district schedule
- DGE Betsy will have one with the presidents-elect and 2019-20 AGs at a mutually agreed upon time during the week before Feb. 16.
- DGN Becky will find a mutually agreeable time during that week (Feb. 11-16) to meet with the presidents-nominee (presidents in the Rotary year 2020-21) to get acquainted and get prepared for our upcoming, shared adventure!

### **PETS**

All presidents-elect are expected by RI to attend PETS. This year it will be from Thursday, Feb. 28 – Sunday, March 3 at Hyatt Regency DFW. For information and registration: [www.lonestarpets.org](http://www.lonestarpets.org)

*We understand that Rotarians have busy lives and may already have other commitments for that time. As a result, Rotary International allows presidents-elect to attend any sanctioned PETS program. To see other options, go to [petsalliance.org/calendar](http://petsalliance.org/calendar). If you do plan to attend a different PETS location, please be sure that your governor knows what you're doing and where you will attend. As a side note, if you do need to attend somewhere other than DFW, you will definitely get the RI-required information. However, you will miss out on the opportunity to get to know the other people in our district who you will be working with throughout the year.*

Presidents-nominee are strongly encouraged to attend in both their nominee year plus their required year as president-elect. People who attend both years report having a much better understanding of what is expected and feel better prepared for their year as president.

If you have any questions about PETS, be sure to contact your governor. Don't wait until the last minute to register. Some years, the rooms at the Hyatt Regency fill up and then people have to stay at the other hotel on the DFW property.

**When your club has selected its president-elect (president in 2019-20) and President-nominee (president in 2020-21), please forward the name, email address, and phone number ASAP to DGE Betsy Robinson ([badtinytim@gmail.com](mailto:badtinytim@gmail.com)).**

### **DISTRICT TRAINING ASSEMBLY**

**When:** Saturday, April 27, 2019

**Where:** Porter High School in Montgomery County

**Who:** 2019-20 Officers and board members, District leadership team, all interested Rotarians

**Why attend:**

- Prepare incoming club leaders for their year in office and build their leadership teams (*job-specific training for board treasurers, secretaries, and others as requested will be offered*)
- Give the district governor-elect and incoming assistant governors and district committees the opportunity to motivate club leadership teams and develop their working relationships
- All those who accept key club leadership roles are encouraged to attend the district training assembly.

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### Rotary Youth Exchange

**Rotary**  
District 5910



**rotary**  
**youth**  
**exchange**

### Our Southeast Texas Students Need Your Help !

**If clubs in our District do not participate in Youth Exchange, students from our District will not be able to go on exchange!**

Of course you know that our District 5910 has currently 39 Rotary Clubs (and 1 Satellite Club) with 2,241 active Members (as of December 19). But you probably do not know that we have at least 10 excellent applicants from high schools in our District who have applied to be Rotary Youth Exchange Students for the 2019-20 School Year. This program is an exchange program, so if not enough clubs in our District will host students from other countries in the coming year, then our young people from District 5910 will not get to participate in this program!

9 of our 39 clubs currently host an inbound Exchange Student: Bryan, Cleveland, College Station, Galveston, Huntsville, Lake Conroe, League City, Palestine, and The Woodlands. Yes, the other 30 (!) clubs do not host a student this year. Some have actually hosted a student in previous years but – unfortunately – many of those 30 clubs have never hosted a student at all! Do those Clubs (and their over 1,550 members) know that they are missing a wonderful opportunity that will change the lives of young people both from our District and from other parts of the world? It is a reward from both directions.

Very soon, your Club President and President Elect will receive an email from Carol Mattingly (our District Youth Exchange Officer) and Ulli Budelmann (our District Youth Exchange Inbound Coordinator) asking them whether their club would be willing to host an exchange student this coming 2019-2020 Rotary Year. Please help us and encourage your club to host a student!

If you have any questions about hosting a student, please do not hesitate to contact either Carol Mattingly at [5910rye@gmail.com](mailto:5910rye@gmail.com) or Ulli Budelmann at [budelmann5910@comcast.net](mailto:budelmann5910@comcast.net)



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### Roll of Fame Nominations

#### **Roll of Fame Call for Nominations: Deadline March 1, 2019**



As chair of District 5910's Role of Fame Committee for 2018-2019, I am reminding that Role of Fame nominations need to be submitted. Attached are copies of the District's (a) requirements for Role of Fame nominees and (b) Nomination Form, both of which were sent previously to Club Presidents.

Please have your club review its membership and nominate one Rotarian that you feel deserves our District's highest honorary award. The nominee must be able to attend the District Conference later in the spring to receive the award. Please submit the nominees' names for review by the District Roll of Fame Committee no later than March 1, 2019. Recipients are expected to appear in person to accept the honor at the District Conference.

Thanks for your deliberation and assistance.

William C. "Bill" Leigh  
District 5910 Roll of Fame Chairman

Link to nomination documents:

[District Roll of Fame Criteria](#)

[District Roll of Fame Nomination Form](#)

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### Rotary Regatta

#### **First Annual Rotary Regatta held on Clear Creek**

Sixty-Five paddlers raced down Clear Creek on Sunday, October 21st at the First Annual Rotary Regatta on Clear Creek. The starting point was 1776 Park in Friendswood. A beautiful sunrise service was led by Reverend Ralph Hobratschk of Hope Lutheran in Friendswood. After enjoying coffee provided by Dunn Brothers in Friendswood, the racers lined up to take their place to enter the water according to class.





Forty-five boats arrived at Country Side Park in Friendswood for the finish line festivities, set up by volunteers from the Rotary Clubs of Friendswood and League City. Racers cruised into the beautiful takeout site with ease as spectators welcomed them from the grassy bank. The Band Cool Beans provided some fantastic music throughout the morning and early afternoon.

During the closing ceremony Mayor Pat Hallisey from League City and Mayor Mike Foreman from Friendswood welcomed the paddlers and guests and praised the two Rotary Clubs for coming together to host the event. Racers and fans enjoyed lunch served up by Chico's. Hot Dogs and More. Karbach Brewery ensured participants had the option of enjoying a cold beer after the long 7-mile paddle.

First place in the Unlimited Men's and First overall went to Johnathon Yonley coming in at 45:58. First in Men's Recreational C-2 and Second overall was the Team of Eric Whicker and Matt Sandel coming in at 52:48. First in Unlimited Mixed and Third overall was the Team of Pam Cayer and Arthur Cayer coming in at 55:16. First in Men's Surf Skis/ICF K-1 and Fourth overall was Mark Kouwe coming in at 56:05.

First place in the Mixed Recreational C-2 was the team of Richard Thorp and Veronica Sanz coming in at 1:05:55. First place in the Recreational Kayak K-1 Long Men's was Robert Allan Davee coming in at 1:17:35. First place in the Recreational Kayak K-1 Short was Phil Pilkinton at 1:22:29. First place Recreational Kayak K1 Short Women's was Kelly Howard at 1:30:04. First place Recreational C-2 Women's was the Team of Meredith Levine and Cassie McGarvey at 1:38:12.



The Rotary Clubs of Friendswood and League City would like to extend their thanks to all of the sponsors again for their contribution to making this inaugural event as successful as it was: City of Friendswood, City of League City, Galveston County Drainage District, Friendswood Recreation, Judy Wiggins Allstate Agency, Sanders McGarvey, Archer Solutions Business Management, Karbach Brewing Company, BPI, Levine and Company Real Estate Brokerage, Ace Hardware of

Friendswood, Friendswood Frame and Gallery. Hopping Eye Associates, Raymond James, Rodin Consulting Group, Speedy Printing, Lindsey Rose Marketing. An extra special "Thank You" goes to Primrose School of Friendswood who generously donated their buses so that the paddlers would have transportation back to their vehicles.

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### CLUB NEWS: Angelina



Angelina Rotary President, Dr. Patricia McKenzie presents Dr. Kindrell Tucker and his wife Tamera with a pen as a thank you for being our featured speaker on December 13. Also pictured, Mary King, Physician Liason for Woodland Heights Medical Center. Dr Tucker spoke about Community Medicine and Disease Prevention.



Angelina Rotary celebrated a great Year with a club Christmas gathering at the home of Rotarian, Emily Flenekin! The club enjoyed a homemade Italian feast that was delicious! It was a great time of fellowship!

(Picured l-r) Publicity chair, Crystal Williams, Programs Chair, Michelle Briley and Buckner Family Pathways Director, Holly Valentine. Angelina Rotary worked together and purchased gifts for a very deserving family! It was such an honor to be a part of making someone's Christmas a little brighter.

Members of Angelina Rotary rang the bell for Salvation Army on a sunny day in December! It was such a pleasure to help ring the bell for a cause!

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### CLUB NEWS: Beaumont



It seems as though helping the Salvation Army with the annual holiday Red Kettle Drive is a tradition for many, many Rotary clubs, and the Beaumont club is no exception. On Saturday, December 8, Rotarians, friends, and family members were pleased to join in the fundraising effort for this deserving charity and have a lot of fun at the same time.

As you might imagine, this group, with a "toy soldier" drew a lot of attention!

Beaumont Rotarians Fred Kristiansen and John Quigley join with Rob Glassey (in "uniform") to spread holiday cheer!

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### **CLUB NEWS: Bryan**

December meetings for Bryan Rotary featured basketball, President Bush-41 Remembrance, Salvation Army Bell Ringing and Holiday Singing.

December 5: Bryan Rotary meeting: Bryan Rotarian, Coach Gary Blair on the challenges of teaching players, kids and grandkids to overcome adversity. Special guest speaker Rod Thornton. Lt Col Thornton, USAF-Retired, and former Deputy Director of the Bush-41 Presidential Library Foundation spoke of his personal remembrances of President George H.W. Bush. Thanks to J Paul Teel for coordinating our December programs.

December 12 meeting of Bryan Rotary celebrated the Salvation Army Holiday Bell Ringing and Angel Tree gift program directed by Bryan Rotarian, Salvation Army Captain Paul Ryerson — and many generous community volunteers. The Bryan-College Station Eagle reported on the Angel Tree program: "Nearly 850 families and more than 2,000 children received bags full of toys and clothes..."

[https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.theeagle.com/news/local/salvation-army-distributes-gifts-in-culmination-of-annual-angel-tree/article\\_29ed542e-dbae-5715-bb96-b60b932a0df1.amp.html](https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.theeagle.com/news/local/salvation-army-distributes-gifts-in-culmination-of-annual-angel-tree/article_29ed542e-dbae-5715-bb96-b60b932a0df1.amp.html)

Bryan Rotary, December 19 meeting: "Holiday Celebration 2018." Featuring Coach Merrill Green and Bryan Rotary ensemble's unique version of the Twelve Days of Christmas. Many friends and family members were welcomed. Roby Somerford presided.

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### **CLUB NEWS: East Montgomery County**

#### **News from the Rotary Club of East Montgomery County**

The EVOK Choir from Lone Star College Kingwood, under the direction of Dr. Todd Miller, provided a beautiful program of seasonal music during the meeting on November 27.

RCEMC President Jim Stubbs and the basketball coaches from New Caney and Splendora ISDs who provided a preview of the coming season.

RCEMC President Jim Stubbs and Montgomery County Sheriff Rand Henderson display the book donated in honor of Sheriff Henderson.

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**CLUB NEWS: Galveston**

Troy Cregar (center) was introduced as the newest member of the Rotary Club of Galveston at the club's recent special holiday meeting. Rotarian Kyle Albright, sponsor, and Club President Ruth Finkelstein Suhler, both participated in introducing him to the membership. (photo by Robyn Bushong.)

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**CLUB NEWS: Galveston Island**

As we reflect on another year that has come to an end, we are happy to say that our club has most definitely put service above self. Our Community Service Director, Sharon O'Connor, organized a multitude of opportunities for our members to give back this year.

Since January, we have we served dinner to the patients at Shriner's Burn Hospital for Children twice, donated letter jackets to Galveston ISD's Special Olympics athletes, hosted an ice-cream social at the Ronald McDonald House, read to kindergarten students with SMART Family Literacy, and delivered a total of 550 meals through our club's Meals on Wheels route every Tuesday.

In addition to our volunteer work, Island Rotary has donated more than \$30,000 to local and global charitable organizations in 2018. As we look into the year to come, we will continue to strive towards this year's theme to BE THE INSPIRATION.

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**CLUB NEWS: Huntsville**

Huntsville Rotarians prepared Christmas stockings for housing-insecure students in Huntsville ISD.

They were presented to the school district, Sally Dowis and Juanita Hall, by President Lydia.

Huntsville Rotarians celebrating Christmas - President Lydia Montgomery with Rotary family, Barbara Solow and Debbie Hood.

President elect Li-Jen Lester and husband/Rotarian Bruce Lester with family of Rotary and Huntsville's Exchange student, Caroline.

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**CLUB NEWS: Nacogdoches**

The Raguet Elementary Choir provided their annual Christmas program at a recent noon meeting of the Rotary Club of Nacogdoches. The choir has performed for the club for the past 74 years. The choir was first led by Mrs. Francis Cariker Rudisill and began its performances in the early days of WWII. This year's program featured many Christmas classics which were enjoyed by all in attendance. The choir is currently led by Ms. Erin Tang, who is in her first year as music teacher at Raguet Elementary.

Pictured left to right are Maryanne Bentley, Program Chairman, Julia Wells, Principal of Raguet Elementary, Ms. Tang and Greg Williams, Club President.

The Madrigal Singers under the direction of Dr. Michael Murphy, Director of Choral Activities at Stephen F. Austin State University were special guests at a recent noon meeting of the Rotary Club of

Nacogdoches. The choir is a highly select chamber ensemble comprised of graduate students and advanced undergraduate students from the SFA A Cappella Choir. The choir focuses on performing challenging repertoire of chamber vocal works from all periods and provided a special presentation of Christmas songs to kick off the club's Christmas concert season. The program was outstanding and enjoyed by all in attendance. Gordon Reynolds, Accountant for Greater East Texas Community Action in Nacogdoches was introduced as a new member of the club by Tom Davis, Sponsoring Member.

Pictured front row left to right are Madrigal Singers: Megan Bucher, Diana Luu, Amanda Sheriff, Katelyn Press, Viveca Richards, Reagan Myers, Angelica O'Pry, Summer Price, Morgan Hanson and Sienna Paul and Mr. Reynolds. Back row left to right are: Greg Williams, Club President, Maryanne Bentley, Program Chairman, Madrigal Singers Anthony Rodriguez, Jacob Rivas, Matthew Mitchell, E.J. Grayson, Logan Ray, Dr. Buddy Himes, Dr. Murphy, Madrigal Singers Grant Peterson, Kristopher Rodriguez, Matthew Heald, Cole Jones and Nathan Ponder, Mr. Davis and Jonathan Dunn, Rotary Membership Chairman.

Santa and Mrs. Clause were special guests at a recent noon meeting of the Rotary Club of Nacogdoches with Santa providing a special message and preview to this year's Christmas season. David and Carol Stanley have been portraying Santa and Mrs. Clause since 2009 and are a professional Santa and Mrs. Clause couple. They have attended Santa Clause conventions and volunteer with the Lone Star Santa organization as well as a number of local charities. Their special Christmas message was enjoyed by all in attendance. Bill Richardson, Construction Project Manager with Cox Contractors, Inc. was introduced as a new member of the club by Jeremy Reynolds, Sponsoring Member.

Pictured left to right are: Buddy Himes, Program Chairman, Ms. Stanley, Mr. Stanley, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Reynolds, Jonathan Dunn, Rotary Membership Chairman and Greg Williams, Club President.

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### **CLUB NEWS: Lake Conroe**

The Lake Conroe Club was busy little elves this year!!!

We partnered again this year with Old Navy in Conroe and shopped for clothing with school age kids for clothing items - The kids were very excited to go shopping with a Rotarian and purchase new clothes.

Lake Conroe Club ringing the bell for Salvation Army at the Walmart Store in Montgomery.

Rotary Lake Conroe helping to distribute 100 gift bags to our veterans, thanking them for their service!

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### **CLUB NEWS: League City**

On November 1st, the Rotary Club of League City held the first ever Adult Spelling Bee. it was a huge success and the Club intends to host one annually. The proceeds of the spelling bee will go toward the Club's literacy program.

Rotary Club of League City hosted the 8th annual Polar Plunge on 12/8! It was a huge hit, great turn out.

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**CLUB NEWS: Orange**

Orange Rotary celebrated the Christmas season in many ways.

The Club supported the Christmas party for the Salvation Army's Boys and Girls Club. Rotary supplied the pizza and members bought Christmas gifts and enjoyed helping at the party.

Past president Steve Aguillard and his wife Annamaria received special recognition for their support of the program from Salvation Army Captain and Rotarian Francisco Zuniga.

Orange Rotary was pleased that the LCM Interact Club hosted the District Interact clubs for a mixer and preparation of backpacks for the Rainbow Room. Rotarian president Natasha Garrett and member Sarah Boehme attended.

December programs for Orange Rotary included holiday musical presentations from the LCM High School choir and then the West Orange Stark High School choir.

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