

Rotary District 6000  
Iowa USA  
Steve Dakin, Governor



First Issue  
2020-21  
(July thru October)

# ***District 6000 News***



## **SUKUP SAFE T HOMES® PROVIDE MORE THAN SHELTER**

**Orphans Romain and Bernadin from Joshua House in Haiti receive  
food, medical care, education and love**

## ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

A Global Network of Community Volunteers  
One Rotary Center  
1560 Sherman Avenue  
Evanston, IL 60201  
Phone: (847) 866-3000  
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Rotary



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Holger Knaack, Herzogtum Lauenburg-Mölln,  
Germany

## DISTRICT 6000 • Iowa USA

www.rotary6000.org

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## EDITOR

# Glass ceiling is broken!

## Dear Rotarians and Friends of Rotary,

On May 4, 1987, a progressive United States Supreme Court ruled that Rotary clubs may not exclude women from membership on the basis of gender.

Responding to the directive, the board of directors of the Rotary Club of Des Moines, for one, changed the club's rules on membership, deleting the word "male" and replacing it with the word "person." The action was ratified by members in June 1987. On July 1, the late **Owen Newlin** became the club's president and **Suku Radia** was membership chair.



Bill Tubbs

Under the leadership of these forward-thinking Rotarians, the board moved forward with plans to open membership to women and decided to invite 10 women to join the club. "We wanted a group," Newlin is recorded in the club's Centennial history as having said at the time. "We thought it would provide a more meaningful presence of women and demonstrate that we embrace the idea of equality for women in our Rotary club."

By the end of Newlin's term as president, the club had 23 female members. There was resistance, but 33 years later, a third of Rotarians and 27 percent of club presidents worldwide are female.

Progress came slowly. In 1994, women became eligible to serve as district governors, but District 6000 didn't have a female district governor until the late **Diana Reed** in 2007-08. There have been three since: **Susan Herrick**, **Jacque Andrew** and **Erna Morain**. **Alka Khanolkar** will be our governor next year.

The first woman from North America to serve on the RI Board of Directors was the late **Betsy Demary** of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., in 2011. There have been several since, including the personable and dynamic **Jennifer Jones**, of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, who is familiar to District 6000 Rotarians as a presenter at District Conferences and other events.

In August, Jennifer was nominated to become RI President in 2022-23. The glass ceiling has been broken! The women in Rotary will have a leader who looks like them (p. 31).

Onward! Upward! Rotary Opens Opportunities.

**Bill Tubbs, District Governor 2004-05**

*Editor, District 6000 News*

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**DISTRICT GOVERNOR**

# Safe T Homes: An opportunity to serve

Dear Rotarians and Friends of District 6000,

**D**istrict 6000 Rotarians have an opportunity to transform the world one family at a time. As your District Governor I selected the Sukup Safe T Home as my project for the 2020-2021 Rotary year.



**Steve Dakin**

The Sukup Safe T Homes are used as homes, schools, churches, refugee camps for orphans, medical/dental clinics, and agricultural projects. There are currently over 400 Safe T Homes in Haiti, Uganda, Kenya, and Peru.

These homes are manufactured in Sheffield, Iowa, from 18-foot grain bins. They have an eave height of eight feet. A double roof has been engineered to keep the inside temperature 15 degrees cooler than the outside. Each home includes an upper half

loft area that can hold up to 1,200 pounds. This provides 381 square feet of usable interior space.

Sukup Safe T Homes are earthquake resistant and have been designed to withstand 145 mph winds. The life expectancy is 75 years.

To deliver these homes across the world, Sukup Manufacturing has partnered with GoServ Global from Eagle Grove, Iowa. When I have spoken with the leaders of GoServ Global, I feel this non-profit organization shares the values to which Rotarians aspire. GoServ Global manages the in-country logistics and construction of each home. Both of these companies have a desire to provide



**Rotary Opens Opportunities**



**Steve Dakin was creating awareness of the Sukup Safe T Homes before his year as District Governor began; here at the Rotary Club of Boone's Centennial on May 1, 2019.**

Photo by Bill Tubbs

safe housing for families in vulnerable communities around the world.

The Sukup Safe T Home provides safety, security, and opportunity to shelter our global neighbors. The total cost of a Sukup Safe T Home is \$7,000. This includes a home with a loft, shipping, concrete floor inside, and on-site assembly. It is my hope that we can provide funds and protect lives for generations to come.

Donations should be made out to District 6000 H.E.F fund and designated as Sukup Safe T Home. Any contribution amount should be sent to Steve Dakin, 1816 140th Street, Boone, Iowa 50036. If you have any questions, please contact me at [steve@retiredfun.net](mailto:steve@retiredfun.net).

**Rotary Opens Opportunities!**

**District Governor Steve Dakin/Boone**

## DISASTER RELIEF

# Rotary helps Iowans recover from derecho

By District Governor Steve Dakin/Boone

As you are aware, a recent natural disaster ripped through our district toppling trees, damaging buildings and flattening crops. As I am writing this, there are people who have been without power for over a week. Some are calling this the most damaging storm in Iowa history.

What can we do? Devastation occurred in northern District 6000 affecting over 20 Rotary club communities. Our district has a Disaster Response Committee and they have allocated \$5,000 toward the recovery effort. At the direction of the District Governor, **Norlan Hinke** wrote and submitted a request to RI for funds. As a result, Rotary International has awarded District 6000 \$25,000 to be used by clubs for derecho relief. Clubs may contact Troy Thompson, chair of the District Disaster Relief Committee, for an application: [thompson.go@gmail.com](mailto:thompson.go@gmail.com).

Let's work together as Rotary clubs and individual Rotarians to raise more funds and then deploy those funds in an effective way. **Marshalltown**, and many other areas in our district have significant damage. Our neighbors in District 5970

are also greatly affected. You have no doubt heard about the **Cedar Rapids** area.

Can your club raise funds or donate existing funds for this cause? For example, the Bettendorf club and **AG Tim Lane** put together a matching funds challenge to their members. Can you as a Rotarian donate to this cause? Can you let us know about an area that is hard hit by this disaster that needs our help?

Please make checks payable to Rotary District 6000 H.E.F. and indicate "For Disaster Response" and send the checks to me at 1816 140th St., Boone, IA 50036.

*This is a Service above Self moment!*

**Tama and Toledo** both received devastating storm damage from the derecho on Aug. 10. **Hot Meals USA**, operated and sponsored by various Rotary clubs around the world, arrived Aug. 13 to provide meals to the communities. Home-based in Kearney, Neb., this group served 1,200 dinners and 800 lunches to anyone who asked. Volunteers manned the set up and delivery system.

*Another example of Rotary, People of Action.*

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD Earnhardt tabbed for Foundation's highest honor

By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson

District 6000 Awards Committee Co-Chair

Only 42 Rotarians in the world were selected to receive The Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service award, its highest honor. Brock Earnhardt of the Rotary Club of Davenport was one of the recipients of the honor which "recognizes significant and dedicated service by a Rotarian to promote Foundation programs and thus advance the Foundation's goal of better understanding and friendly relations among people of the world." Recipients must have achieved the TRF Citation of Meritorious Service at least four years prior.



**Brock Earnhardt**

The award was presented virtually at the club's regular meeting on Monday, Aug. 31 by immediate Past District Governor Erna Morain, Waukee; District Foundation Chair PDG Chris Knapp, Iowa City AM; and District Awards Co-Chairs Bill Koellner, West Liberty and PDG Jacque Andrew, Jefferson.

As the chair of the District World Community Service Grant and District Global Grants committees for nearly two decades, Brock presented valuable, insightful and understandable education, encouragement and guidance regarding grant development, writing and successful submission at virtually every District Assembly and later Grant Management Seminars and multiple District Conferences.

The true measure of his effectiveness as a leader in TRF grant training is the result seen in projects developed by clubs. Through this education and his ongoing mentoring, the District and its clubs have generated 95 grants in 12 years totaling over \$5.5 million in benefit to the projects. As the interest of clubs was sparked by his training, Brock actively worked with them to successfully formulate, write, and submit their project grants. Often visiting the sites of grants with clubs as the project was completed.

Not only a grant writer, Brock also worked on the fund-raising side as well. He was instrumental in organizing and raising funds for multiple-district and club grants in Colombia for medical equipment and in Nepal for water collection and distribution systems from Rotarians and supportive businesses. He was instrumental in acquiring several Paul Harris Society members to the District who helped support these and other grants.

Brock was a member of a National Immunization Team to India in 2000 which was comprised of Rotarians and two Interactors, all from District 6000. A dual mission of this NID trip was to not only participate in the polio eradication efforts in a number of remote villages but also to discern needs for grants in which the District 6000 could provide leadership.

Brock's team took those drops to remote villages where other needs could be seen, an important link between polio immunization and furthering TRF's global work. As a result, in the 10 years that followed, his club partnered with 29 different Indian Rotary clubs on grant projects and sponsored 61 humanitarian service projects, in total, in developing countries on four continents.

Previous recipients of this award from District 6000 were PDGs Paul Hellwege (Boone), Don Goering (Ames), and Herb Wilson (Iowa City).

## Community Grants awarded to 28 clubs

The District 6000 Community Service Grants Committee chaired by Norlan Hinke of Clinton, with team coordinator Todd Wheeler of Des Moines, awarded grants for these projects in 2020-21.

The committee approved all grant applications, however, they reduced the commitment amount of three, based on the club having limited contributions to The Rotary Foundation. "If funds are not donated to the Foundation, there will not be funds that can be issued in grants."

Other criteria included benefit to disadvantaged people, benefit to Rotary's public image, club contributions to the project, and member involvement.

"The Community Grant Committee will hold a virtual committee meeting this fall to discuss the point system, as we always want to be fair and equitable for each and every Rotary Club in District 6000," said Hinke.

**Albia:** Albia Reservoir Dog Park, **\$3,750.**

**Ames AM:** Small Talk at Home, **\$5,000.**

**Ankeny No. 1:** Agape Garden Potato Digger, **\$1,683.**

**Ankeny No. 2:** Equipment for Ankeny Service Center, **\$1,494.**

**Bettendorf:** Electrical Service for Tiny House/One-Eighty, **\$5,000.**

**Bloomfield:** Benches for Distance Markers/Davis County Trail, **\$5,000.**

**Boone:** Book Initiative - Back to School/Community Initiative, **\$5,000.**

**Carroll:** Carroll Childcare Center, Learning Center, **\$900.**

**Clinton:** Rotary Backpack Buddies, **\$1,547.**

**Coralville-North Corridor:** Community Food Pantry Freezer, **\$1,350.**

**Dallas Center:** Community Winter Activities Shed, **\$5,000.**

**Davenport:** Mobile technology/Career Development/YMCA, **\$5,000.**

**Decatur County:** Equipment for Leon Little League, **\$4,990.**

**Des Moines AM:** Food Bank of Iowa, **\$5,000.**

**Fairfield:** Jefferson County Kids Childcare/Library, **\$5,000.**

**Grinnell:** Highflow oxygen machine for GRMC Hospital, **\$1,658.**

**Iowa City AM:** Bench Buddies, **\$2,898.**

**Knoxville:** Uplifting Knoxville, **\$2,705.**

**Lenox:** Pocket Park, **\$4,250.**

**Manning:** Pad for Musical Instruments, **\$5,000.**

**Muscatine:** Heart Rate Monitors for Muscatine High School, **\$2,189.**

**Nevada:** Volleyball System for Fieldhouse, **\$5,000.**

**North Scott:** Technology for Underprivileged Youth, **\$5,000.**

**Northwest Des Moines:** Josh the Baby Otter, **\$2,456.**

**Ottumwa:** Steps Towards Future, **\$3,019.**

**Washington:** YMCA Rotary Community Room, **\$5,000.**

**Wellman:** Re-Think You Drink, **\$3,000.**

**West Liberty No. 1:** Literacy Grant for Elementary School/Library, **\$2,500.**

**West Liberty No. 2:** Trees for Dutton Sports Complex, **\$1,050.**

**Winterset:** Handicapped Access for Rotary Maze, **\$5,000.**

**TOTAL GRANTS: \$101,507**

**District Expenses: \$1,250**

**TOTAL: \$102,757**



**DENISON**

# 'Thank you for the warm welcome'

**By George C. Blazek/Denison**  
Club President

As president of the Denison Rotary Club, I want to express my club's gratitude for the warm welcome that we have received into District 6000.

After many good years in District 5610 which is to the west of District 6000, our Denison Rotary Club moved to your district effective July 1, 2020. Our club consists of 31 Rotarians who reside or work in the Denison area.

For those that may not be aware, Denison is a rural community of approximately 8,500 people located in west central Iowa. The strengths of Denison include its diversity, industriousness in the food processing industry, and openness to change.

Although Denison is an ever-changing community, one of the constants has been the positive difference that Denison Rotarians have been making in the community and world for decades. Because of generous support from our community, our club is able to hold a



**George C. Blazek**

successful auction each November.

In November of 2019, we raised net proceeds of \$40,862 from our auction. The auction proceeds allow us to donate to local, national, and international charitable efforts. For example, recently we have donated to a nonprofit to build a new nursing home facility, literacy programs to improve literacy, and a program that provided meals to those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have continued to do the good work of Rotary. We meet each Thursday on Zoom at noon and we will be having an auction on Nov. 1, 2020, that will occur online and on the radio. Once the website for our auction is up and running, I will be sure to notify District 6000 of the website address.

We hope that you can visit our auction website. We look forward to when we can meet again with you in person and get to know our new district even better. Thank you again for welcoming us into your district.

## AWARD FOR NON-ROTARIANS

# Kenneth Quinn: 'Excellence in Service to Humanity'

**By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson**  
District 6000 Awards Committee Co-Chair

Ambassador Kenneth Quinn was awarded Rotary International's Excellence in Service to Humanity honor at the Rotary Club of Des Moines meeting on Thursday, Oct. 8 by nominator immediate past District Governor Erna Morain, Waukee, and District Awards co-chairs PDG Jacque Andrew, Jefferson, and Bill Koellner, West Liberty – with assistance from Rotarians David Oman and Kitte Morehouse, Des Moines.



**Kenneth Quinn**

Quinn was one of only 25 in the world to receive the award for the 2019-20 Rotary year with fewer than 100 ever to be so honored.

From his Iowa roots, Ken Quinn went on to a distinguished 32-year career in the U.S. Foreign Service and State Department serving in Washington, DC, Vienna and in various southeast Asian countries during the Vietnam era and as the 10th Ambassador to Cambodia from 1995-1999. He was instrumental in the permanent relocation and settlement of many hundreds of Tai Dam refugees, and played a central role in one of the greatest humanitarian efforts in the state's history.

Following his diplomatic career, Ambassador Quinn was chosen to serve as president of the World Food Prize in 1999. (Recognizing advances in the fight against global hunger, the prize was founded by 1970 Nobel Prize winner Norman Borlaug who is credited with saving a billion lives in Central

America, India and Pakistan through plant research and development. Borlaug was the recipient of the 2002 Rotary International Award for World Understanding and Peace.)

Early in the development of the WFP, Ken led a \$30-million renovation of the former Des Moines Library into the World Food Prize Hall of Laureates which recognizes those whose breakthrough achievements ensure global food security. He worked with the Rotary Club of Des Moines on a major donation of \$150,000 to the WFP building as its 2011 centennial club project gift. Rotary received significant recognition next to the statue of Dr. Borlaug. Ambassador Quinn is an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Des Moines.

Throughout Quinn's foreign service, especially in SE Asia, humanitarian efforts were at the core of his endeavors. He considers himself "a foot soldier in the 'green revolution'" launched by Borlaug's life-saving "miracle wheat." The related crop, "miracle rice," that Quinn helped spread through Vietnam in the 1960s, changed lives. He devoted available resources to building good rural roads that created positive change, reducing hunger, poverty, political instability, and terrorism.

In 1974, working in Iowa, he led the resettlement of 1,500 Tai Dam refugees to communities throughout the state. Later, after visiting Indochina regions, he developed Iowa SHARES to raise millions in funds for supplies, food and medical help for 30,000 Cambodian refugees. At the World Food Prize events, he has raised the interest in feeding our world from a few dozen award attendees to over 2,000, including 300 high school and college students from 20-plus states for international food research fellowships and internships.

## President-Elect Training in March will be virtual

By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson

Assistant Editor, District 6000 News

Attention Rotary club presidents-elect and presidents-nominee!

The 2021 training for incoming club leadership hosted by North Central Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (NCPETS) will be held VIRTUALLY online instead of in-person in Ames, IA.

The NCPETS board of directors approved this delivery method in mid-September taking into consideration the coronavirus restrictions and Rotary International recommendations.

The virtual platform "Opens Opportunities" for many more inspiring speakers who can present at the training, including Rotary International President-Elect Shekhar Mehta of India.

To enhance the training experience, the latest technology techniques will be employed to facilitate interaction among participants.

Watch your inbox for more details regarding the March 2021 training! Presidents-elect and Presidents-Nominee – you won't want to miss this! The NCPETS team is ready to stand and deliver the training for club leadership aimed at success for all clubs in District 6000!



**Shekhar Mehta**  
RI President-Elect, 2021-22

## Hear President Knaack at Foundation Luncheon

By PDG Chris Knapp/Iowa City AM

District 6000 Rotary Foundation Chair

All Rotarians in District 6000 are invited to join our first Virtual Rotary Foundation Luncheon on Saturday, Nov. 7, at noon.

Our special guest and keynote speaker will be Rotary International President Holger Knaack, from Herzogtum Laaueburg-Mölin, Germany. He will be the keynote speaker, and Rotarians will have an opportunity to ask questions.

There will be presentations to Rotarians that have been recognized by The Rotary Foundation and District 6000 during the past Rotary year. Also a brief report on the successes that District 6000 has had by using the power of Our Foundation.

Don't miss this great opportunity to hear our President of Rotary International, Holger Knaack!

We will be using a Zoom setup that requires attendees to pre-register. To register, go to [Rotary6000.org](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88685096853) under District Events, or click on the attached link to receive your special invitation:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88685096853>  
Meeting ID: 886 8509 6853



**Holger Knaack**  
RI President, 2020-21



### JOIN US

**DISTRICT 6000 ONE ROTARY SUMMIT**  
Learn, Explore and Discuss How Rotary Opens Opportunities

**Thursday October 22nd, 2020**  
**Virtual Event starting at 6:30pm**

No Fees to attend! Come one come all!!!

Topics being discussed:

- Opening Comments by DG Steve Dakin
- Innovative Clubs - Ron Heideman
- Inclusion & Diversity - DGE Alka Khonalkar
- Public Image - Tyler Phelps & Ryan Bell

Click this link to attend virtually

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88580364476>

To register, go to [Rotary6000.org](https://Rotary6000.org) under Events, or type in address at right:

**ROTARY DISTRICT 6000**

**Rotary**



**Rotary Opens Opportunities**



# Flight to End Polio postponed to April 2021

By PDG John Ockenfels/Iowa City AM

As you are mostly aware by now, Peter Teahen and I were compelled to delay our planned trip around the world that was known as "The Flight To End Polio." Our original planned departure date was March 24th 2020.



PDG John Ockenfels

The coronavirus was quickly spreading across Europe and had already burned through Italy. At two weeks prior to our planned departure date we made the decision to postpone the flight for a number of very critical safety issues. We obviously did not want to take a chance on one of us getting sick enroute or more importantly carrying the virus with us as we traveled through many different countries. We also did not want to end up with the plane grounded in a foreign country where we could not get it home.

We did not have a really good crystal ball available at the time. So, based on the information available at the time we figured that the world would be back on its feet and open for business by the middle of July. So, we set a July 7 2020 departure date. We soon figured out that date was extremely optimistic. Therefore, we needed another back up plan. Our next planned launch date was about Sept. 15.

As we planned the trip we knew that changing weather patterns as we moved East to West and South to North would impact our ability to maintain good safety margins. We knew that if we left too late in the year by the time we got back around to North Eastern Russia (Siberia) the temperatures could be well below freezing with heavy snow showers and strong winds. From there we would fly across the Bering Sea to Alaska and western Canada. The prospect of these weather conditions was not OK with either one of us. Survival in the event of normally minor problem could become an issue.

The virus is still rampant in many countries and we are still not allowed to enter most of them. Although we are seeing improving health conditions across the world, there are still many countries that do not currently have a safe prognosis prior to the new year. We have now set another launch date that we believe is much more realistic: the End of April 2021.



Both from a safety of flight and operational logistics standpoint this time frame offers much better options for the flight.

We will restart our fundraising programs in the fall and we will also continue to update our planning on both the website [www.flighttoendpolio.com](http://www.flighttoendpolio.com) and our Facebook page "Flight To End Polio."

We are also working on modifying our initial route to still take us through St. John's Newfoundland. But, then across the North Atlantic through Greenland and Iceland continuing down through Europe to Portugal and Italy where we will continue as previously planned. This is a safer route that will have shorter flying legs and also let us meet more Rotarians along the way.

One interesting side note is that we may end up in the Philippines or Okinawa just prior to the Rotary International Convention. If this works out we are strongly considering a diversion (probably on Commercial airlines) to Taipei Taiwan for the convention.

Please, watch for more information and plan to help End Polio by making donations to the Rotary Foundation's "End Polio Now" fund through the Flight To End Polio.

Keep an eye on April 2021.

## Watch for details of Ride to End Polio in April 2021

By PDG Susan Herrick/Boone

District 6000 PolioPlus Chair

Thirty-seven years ago the El Tour de Tuscon began its fundraising efforts with its Ride to End Polio on the second week of November. Nine years ago it added an Indoor Ride to End Polio, recognizing that there were many places in the Rotary world where you couldn't comfortably ride a bike outside in November.

District 6000 joined this effort in 2017 and incredibly WON the Indoor Ride to End Polio that year by raising \$8,140 – which when matched by Gates Foundation, sent \$24,420 to Rotary International to help eradicate the wild polio virus.

The next year we placed second in the world by raising nearly \$16,000, and each year after we have increased the number of Rotarian riders, clubs and money raised.

Well, here we are in 2020 when everything seems to be changing. I was contacted by Char Harris of the Rotary Club of Tuscon and she let me know that due to COVID-19, they are going to run the El Tour de Tuscon in April of 2021.

After consulting with the D6000 PolioPlus Subcommittee, we felt that a postponement to early April would be a wise decision for our D6000 ride also. So please keep an eye out for our new Spring dates and consider joining us at that time. It is an easy way to earn your PolioPlus goal for this year.

Polio celebrated a wonderful milestone in August of this year by declaring **Africa Free of Polio!** What a wonderful accomplishment! But there is still the wild polio virus in this world and we cannot afford to relax at a time when we are nearing the end of this fight!

As of the week of Aug. 31, there were 102 cases of the wild polio virus in the world – 65 in Pakistan and 37 in Afghanistan. Last year there were 176 cases, in 2018 there were 33 cases and in 2017 there were 22 cases. So, as you can see, we cannot quit this fight – that wild virus is certainly not quitting!

Please stay healthy and safe as we face the latest pandemic to threaten our planet and then let's get back to work to keep our promise to the children of the world to eradicate the crippling killer of polio from our world.

JOSE LUIS JANEIRO

# Xicotepec Rotarians pay tribute to project founder

By Jim Peterson/Iowa City AM

District 6000 Xicotepec Project Co-Chair

Although COVID-19 has kept most of the world at home and distanced from one another, many of us have used online tools like Zoom and GoToMeeting to see and talk to friends around the world.

At their regular meeting on July 29, the Xicotepec Rotary Club paid a special tribute to José Luis Janeiro, a founder of the club and president 2001-02, which was the year in which District 6000 Rotarians first made contact with the Xicotepec club.

Those attending virtually by Zoom and/or Facebook from Iowa included five members of the "Discovery Grant Team" that first traveled to Xicotepec to explore the possibilities of a Rotary collaboration: Nancy and PDG Gary Pacha, Keith Hobson, David Hansen and Jim Peterson, as well as Xicotepec Project founders PDG Ray and Linda Muston, and PDG Tom and Carol Narak, who have served as leaders for project teams and youth on many trips to Xicotepec.

Several D6000 Rotarians sent messages that were read out loud (in Spanish) during the celebration. Excerpts from their comments:

*From that meeting (of David Hansen and José Luis Janeiro in Xicotepec in 2001) the Xicotepec Project began, which changed so many lives in Xicotepec and Iowa and began a friendship between us that has lasted since 2002. During that time we have had opportunities that have enriched us all... Thank you, José Luis, for being the first to accept us in your community and for supporting the work we do together. We will always be grateful.*

*We are ... extremely honored to be friends and Rotary family members of*



**March, 2003: The parent in the middle mortgaged his home in the 1990s in order to support the primary school that his children attended; subsequently he and the school received support from the Rotary Club of Xicotepec and the school was named after the club: Escuela Primaria Club Rotario. Appearing in the photo (l-r): Gary and Nancy Pacha, school parent, José Luis Janeiro, Ray Muston.**

*José Luis and his wonderful family and friends. The outstanding relationship between the Rotary Club of Xicotepec and Rotary District 6000 stands out as a model for Rotarians all over the world... Jose Luis stands out as a model... [and] leads by serving others, no matter who they are or where they are from...*

*Greetings to my very special Rotary friend, José Luis Janeiro Sieiro. You speak the language of friendship. You touched my heart... You were the moving force for a true example of Service above Self in Rotary International. You in doing so have touched the lives and hearts of Iowa...*

*I have fond memories of you and your family greeting us in La Choza on our inaugural trip in 2002... Your hospital-*

*ity was overwhelming... This was the beginning of a glorious relationship that District 6000 Rotarians from Iowa and Xicotepec Rotarians have developed over the past 18 years... Thank you for the foresight to gather with our group from Iowa back in 2002... and to work with us over the years.*

While the Zoom meeting was fraught with technical difficulties, a warm atmosphere of fellowship and gratitude prevailed. Iowans and Xicotepecanos alike were delighted to see a worthy Rotarian receive well-deserved recognition for his faithful service and for supporting his club, his community and the project that has brought so many visitors from District 6000 to Xicotepec de Juárez over the past 19 years.

## VOCATIONAL SERVICE

# Nominate a member for 'Guardian of Integrity' award

By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott

District 6000 Vocational Service Chair

To encourage Rotarians and clubs to focus on Rotary's core value of integrity, and to honor the memory of the late Boone Rotarian, PDG 1954-55 Judge Paul E. Hellwege, District 6000 is asking clubs to nominate one member for the tenth annual District 6000 "Paul E. Hellwege Guardian of Integrity" awards.

A nomination form will soon be posted at the District website and sent to clubs. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 31, 2021. The nominations will be submitted to the

District 6000 Vocational Service Committee, and nominees will be recognized at the District Conference.

The award will be presented annually to Rotarians in District 6000 who have been a member for a minimum of three years and who exemplify the attributes and passion for ethics and integrity in his or her vocation, business and personal life that Paul exemplified. This award recognizes individuals who have made contributions in business, media, academia or government and who have by their actions, writing, policies and public pronouncements strengthened and fostered development of integrity and ethical practices.



# Meet Rotary Scholar Simone Renault

By Liz Beck/Ames

District 6000 Rotary Scholars Chair

**S**imone Renault, our new Rotary Global Grant Scholar, first contacted me in the summer of 2016 to inquire about the Global Grant Scholarship. At that point, she was two years out from the University of Iowa with both a BA and a BS and Honors Recognition. Her academic record and résumé showed great promise, but Simone could not clearly articulate her future path.

Simone contacted me again in fall of 2019, with a clearly articulated path forward, combining her current work as a third-year medical student that UCLA's David Geffen School of Medicine and previous experiences in international service in Gambia, Romania and India, research studies and course work in neurobiology and bioethics at Harvard and MIT.

Simone will start a masters degree this fall for a master of science degree in Global Mental Health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine/King's College London's Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Neuroscience. She notes in her Rotary application that this study will "grant me the ability to investigate mental health and illness as they reside within our global policies and systems of care."

Simone cites the reason for her pursuit of study in psychiatry and mental health in her own words:

**"My approach to global health** has grown out of a desire to identify and work within the gaps of global health care – what aren't we doing, why aren't we doing it, and what can I do about it? According to the World Health Organization, depression has outpaced pneumonia and diarrheal disease to become the leading cause of disability worldwide. Mental illness on the whole accounts for 23 percent of the global burden of disease and yet even in the best-resourced countries (like the United States) over 50 percent of people with a mental illness receive absolutely no treatment.

"I've applied this appreciation of the burden-to-care gap for mental health to my role as medical coordinator of the UCLA Mobile Clinic Project, a student-run clinic serving over one thousand persons experiencing homelessness each year. On the streets of West Hollywood, the back of our truck serves as the medical entry point for a community with a protracted history of discrimination and distrust of institutionalized health care.

"I bear witness weekly to the insidious and unrelenting

mental duress that comes with living on the streets and care for individuals attempting to navigate a mental health system that was not effectually built for them.

"In addition to directing clinical operations for the UCLA Mobile Clinic, I built the organizational infrastructure and clinic partnerships for Companion Care, an accompaniment program that has linked hundreds of clients with complex medical needs to mental health and primary care clinics in

Los Angeles for longitudinal treatment. I also spearhead the design of a street-side transdiagnostic care model that seeks to address the full spectrum of mental illness for our clients including mindfulness-based therapy, lay counsellors, and appropriate psychiatric triage and referral.

"In designing programs for the mental wellbeing of street communities and bridging clients from the curb to the clinic for long-term psychiatric services, I've begun to learn when to work alongside preexisting care infrastructure and when to innovate beyond it, to surround myself with people who augment my skill set, and to ensure that each decision be led by those we serve.

"I am eager to formulate locally appropriate and evidence-based psychiatric treatments alongside research mentors at KCL's world-leading Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience, and extend these lessons to the unhoused in West Hollywood as well as other communities (both globally and locally) that I will one day serve."



Simone Renault

**'My approach to global health has grown out of a desire to identify and work within the gaps of global health care – what aren't we doing, why aren't we doing it, and what can I do about it?'**

**A**fter her year of study for her master of science, Simone plans to return to UCLA to complete her fourth year of medical school to finish her remaining clinical courses in community health, psychiatry, and internal medicine as well as continue her research in street psychiatry with the UCLA Mobile Clinic Project and Center for Social Medicine. She will graduate with her medical degree in the spring of 2021. Concurrently with her

last year of medical school, Simone intends to be interviewing at academic medical centers across the country for psychiatry residency training programs.

I have no doubt that Simone will be an excellent Global Grant Scholar for District 6000. She has the energy, the positive attitude and the resilience to be an advocate and change agent on the front lines of the changing needs of mental health services and being the active voice for the necessary changes in the policies and politics of mental health delivery systems.

## KEOKUK

# Peace pipe project reaches worldwide

*The Peace Pipe Letter project that began at Keokuk Rotary in 1931 and which was rediscovered in 2018 by Keokuk Rotarian Tony Conn, is connecting Rotarians worldwide through Zoom meetings with clubs who answered Keokuk Rotarian William Fulton's invitation with letters in 1931-32. Those amazing letters of peace and goodwill were found and are preserved in the book, "Die Peace-Pipe Briefe," which can be purchased by contacting Conn at conn.tony.2013@gmail.com.*

*The Peace Pipe project was celebrated at the 2019 Hamburg RI Convention, and caught the attention of the Germanic ROTARY MAGAZINE, where this article was published in the September 2020 issue:*

## ROTARY AND ITS ENTHUSIASM FOR PEACE

In 1931, American Rotarians sought to send a symbol of peace in uncertain times around the world. This ultimately led 89 years later to an international project. — *Matthias Schütt*

**KEOKUK** – the Indian name of this small town, located on the Mississippi River in the state of Iowa, might have been enough in itself to arouse interest among Rotarians when they received a letter from this address. But the content of the letter made them really take notice.

The Rotary Club of Keokuk, named after a famous chieftain of the Sauk and Fox tribes, was inviting its Rotary friends beyond the seas to smoke the peace pipe with them. In Germany, this must have immediately reminded many recipients of books by Karl May and James Fenimore Cooper; this is apparent at any rate in several of the return letters sent by German clubs.

But the letter from the United States had a serious purpose. In 1931 the world was on the brink of disaster. The consequences of the world financial crisis and the advance of National Socialism was frightening to Rotarians, and not only those in Europe.

One of these was the businessman William Jewett Fulton from Keokuk, who had just spent the summer in Europe in order to attend the Rotary International Convention in Vienna. Outside of the safe world of Rotary, the approaching menace was already perceptible, which is why, once back in Iowa, Fulton suggested to his fellow club members that they write to all 504 Rotary Clubs outside of the United States to express their common sense of good will and to affirm the ideal of understanding among peoples.

### A chieftan as messenger of peace

In this letter, Fulton chose the symbol of the peace pipe, because the town's namesake, Chief Keokuk (ca. 1780-1848), had gone down in history as a conciliatory treaty partner of the white conquerors. Even though the American authorities had broken treaties with the indigenous tribes again and again



The publishers Joachim Reppmann (left) and Tony Conn holding their book and a peace pipe.

and constricted their living space through land acquisitions, Keokuk saw no alternative but to conduct negotiations. What he had witnessed was a gruesome shedding of blood that had to be stopped.

For Fulton and his club friends, the peace pipe was “the greatest gesture of hospitality” — one they wanted to share with all their friends worldwide. “We would be happy,” Fulton wrote, “if we received an answer from you, for it is our serious hope to promote contact and friendship with Rotarians beyond our borders.” To give an idea of the dimensions of their project, long before the days of “copy and paste”: each of the 504 letters was personally addressed and individually typed.

### Cigars as a substitute

Two hundred and one clubs, somewhat less than half, responded to the request. Of the 26 German clubs, 15 wrote back. In Aachen, the letter was read “at the moment in which we lit our cigars after our meal, so that we honored your kind invitation in spirit.” While some of the clubs pointed to the “truly extraordinarily difficult position of our fatherland,” others emphasized “the great moral seriousness” with which Rotary was pursued in Germany.

This is actually where the story ends, yet it had three consequences that extend into the present day. Decades passed by without anyone in Keokuk remembering the letters — until they resurfaced one day in a bank safe. This gave Tony Conn, the president of the local club, the idea of combining the letters of response in book form in time for the Rotary International Convention in Hamburg, and to write to the German clubs again, expressing the view that the world was in a similarly critical position concerning understanding among peoples.

Tony Conn of Keokuk unfortunately received only one response in 2019; the remaining 14 German Rotary clubs contacted by Rotarian Fulton in 1931 did not write back.

The book was published by Conn and the historian Joachim Reppmann from Flensburg, who has lived in the United States for years, has taught as a professor in Minnesota, and is a member of the Rotary Club of Northfield, Minn.

During the Hamburg Convention he organized a meeting using the symbol of the peace pipe and issued an invitation for a bus trip with “book party” to the Flensburg Fjord. The participants included 135 members from 68 peace pipe clubs in 21 countries.

**PEACE PIPE**, continued on next page



Chief Keokuk, a model of the willingness to negotiate.



# Rotary Youth Exchange seeks to regroup

## Hello Fellow Rotarians:

As we all look forward to the adventurous start of another school year, I would like to take a few minutes to recap our district's Rotary Youth Exchange program status.

Let me begin with the good news that all of our inbound and outbound students have returned to their respective families as of Aug. 1, 2020. There was a tremendous amount of heavy lifting to make this a success from a full cast of folks, including but not limited to, the inbound and outbound students, their families and host families, our Rotarians, our district and partner districts, our counselors, and all of those on the Rotary Youth Exchange teams here and afar. A collection of individuals too numerous to list, but they deserve our many collective thanks.

While we canceled the exchanges for the upcoming 2020-2021 academic year, we are now preparing for the resumption of exchanges in 2021-2022. As a result, we will be accepting applications for outbound students until Nov. 1, 2020.

## Adapting to COVID

COVID-19 caused all of us to adapt to change, rethink our strategies, modify our lifestyles, and Rotary Youth Exchange is no different. Our interview process and training will certainly change this year to accommodate social distancing and limited gatherings constraints. Our screening process will be more selective on various fronts, and we foresee a smaller class size as we ramp up the program for the future.

Our clubs will also have to adapt, too. The recruiting of students and host families will be challenging, as high school students receive their instruction via a mixed bag of in-person and online education. Many schools will limit, if not cancel, fall extra-curricular activities and restrict guests from attending foreign language classes and club gatherings that have historically served as conduits to recruit.

However, as much of a challenge as this is, it's an opportunity for Rotary to adapt once again and overcome. We can continue to reach out to the foreign language teachers and guidance counselors. Clubs can leverage their social media outlets. Seek help from within your clubs for Rotary Youth Exchange volunteers and counselors and begin recruiting host families who are NOT required to be members of Rotary.

Our district's Rotary Youth Exchange team is engaged and

committed to ensuring our program weathers this storm, but we need your help. Rotary Youth Exchange is one of Rotary's essential recruitment programs with several regional and international alumni initiatives currently underway. While we may not see this year's rebound students engaged in Rotary this year, next year, or even in 10 years, we are hopeful that keeping in touch with them over time will encourage them to return as future Rotarians. As we have heard numerous times since the start of this pandemic, we are all "in this together." Without a doubt, we are all in this together to make this program an ongoing success.

We are optimistic for the 2021-22 year and remain in touch with our partner programs during the pandemic. We are beginning to select those partner districts for the 2021-2022 academic year with stable and reliable relationships, and we will be restricting country selection to those districts. At this time, your recruits, potential host families, and everyone involved in the upcoming exchange restart must realize everything is fluid and can unexpectedly change or cancel. As Rotarians, we are fair to all concerned, so we need to set this expectation appropriately.

Soon, our club presidents will be receiving a questionnaire from our Rotary Youth Exchange team. There will be several of these and other relevant correspondence over the year as we build new paths and directions for our program. Your timely input, advice, and suggestions are vital so that we can have the most accurate view of our district's status. We also want to know our district's clubs' concerns, so I am asking in advance to please reply to our correspondence and questionnaires.

The latest on our program is on our district website along with information about the application process:

<https://www.rotary6000.org/sitepage/rotary-youth-exchange/related-page>

On behalf of your Rotary Youth Exchange team, have a safe and enjoyable rest of summer, and we wish you and your families a healthy and fantastic start to the Fall season.

Yours In Rotary,

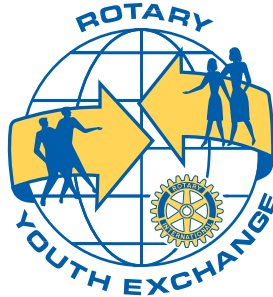
**Greg Probst, chair**

D6000 Rotary Youth Exchange

[greg.probst@rye6000.org](mailto:greg.probst@rye6000.org)

[greg@icdesigns.com](mailto:greg@icdesigns.com)

319-331-5987



## PEACE PIPE, *continued*

The "Peace Pipe Letters" connect Rotarians from all over the world.

## A peace project for Africa

The second consequence is the forthcoming establishment of a Rotaract "Peace Pipe E-Club" in District 5950 of the United States. And the third is a current project in Africa.

On the initiative of South Africa, 100 mediators have recently been in training; their purpose will be to settle social conflicts at a sub-judicial level. The project countries are Angola, Botswana, Eswatini (Swaziland), Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa. The emphasis is on helping disadvantaged groups in particular, such as women and young people. The idea is to expand the model to as great an extent as possible to all African countries.

## Exchanges will resume for 2021-22

We are planning on resuming our exchanges for 2021-2022, and the application process is underway. Please contact our team at [apply@rye6000.org](mailto:apply@rye6000.org) if you have any interested students in applying for the upcoming year. Because of COVID-19, there will be unusual challenges and uncertainty that will result in changes in our interview and training process, so more will be forthcoming as the year unfolds. Applications are due November 1st, and interviews with interviews scheduled for November 14th. We also welcome to our committee Taylor Wertheim, a D6000 Rotex who went on her exchange to Scafati, Italy in 2013, and a soon-to-be member of our Iowa City AM club. Taylor will be leading our Rotex program within Rotary Youth Exchange.

— Greg Probst

# Hats off to proud Rotarians: 50-plus years!

Congratulations to Rotarians of District 6000 with over 50 years of membership! District Governor Steve Dakin is commending these Rotarians for their dedication to service above self and for achieving these milestones in their service to Rotary. Thanks to District Administrator Carolyn Scharff for the list:

**Adel:** Earl Sande, 64  
**Adel:** James Van Werden, 64  
**Ames:** Vincent Hassebrock, 53  
**Ames:** Theodore Tostlebe, 54  
**Ames:** Reinhard Friedrich, 60  
**Ames:** David Boylan, 61  
**Ames:** Donald Goering, 61  
**Ames Morning:** Harold Jensen, 51  
**Atlantic:** Robert Camblin, 54  
**Bettendorf:** Frank Schwab, 52  
**Bettendorf:** Thomas Howard, 53  
**Burlington:** David Camp, 52  
**Burlington:** Edward Whitham, 58  
**Burlington:** Milton (Milt) Paule, 65  
**Carroll:** Lynn Curry, 52  
**Carroll:** Wayne Harmening, 70  
**Carroll:** Gerald Vorsten, 70  
**Centerville:** Roland Reznicek, 66

**Chariton:** William Shelton, 52  
**Chariton:** Lynn Johnson, 56  
**Davenport:** Greg Gutsell, 51  
**Davenport:** Douglas Garner, 52  
**Davenport:** Dan Bovenmyer (Honorary), 57  
**Davenport:** Paul Eckert (Honorary), 57  
**Davenport:** Ralph Heninger, 57  
**Davenport:** Carl Zurborg, 58  
**Decatur County:** Philip Metcalf, 58  
**Des Moines:** James Sommers (Honorary), 55  
**Des Moines:** Charles Betts, Jr. (Honorary), 60  
**Fairfield:** Larry Nash, 56  
**Grinnell:** Theodore Clausen, 52  
**Indianola:** Stephen Hall, 51  
**Indianola:** Charles Kerr, 60  
**Iowa City:** Jerry Hilgenberg, 52  
**Iowa City:** James Kennedy, 53  
**Iowa City:** Willis Bywater, 56  
**Iowa City:** Roger Simpson, 62  
**Iowa City:** William Summerwill, 57  
**Iowa City AM:** Herbert Wilson, 57  
**Jefferson:** Gerald Magee, 52  
**Jefferson:** Robert Schmidt, 52  
**Kalona:** Ray Schrepfer, 54  
**Kalona:** Steve Reif, 55  
**Keokuk:** Donald Miller, 53  
**Keokuk:** Richard Lofton, 54

**Keokuk:** John Smith, 54  
**Keokuk:** H. Wesley Brown, 58  
**Keokuk:** Robert Wustrow, 59  
**Lenox:** Keigh Howland, 60  
**Marshalltown:** David Wilson, 51  
**Marshalltown:** Royal Young, 57  
**Marshalltown:** Robert Becker, 60  
**Marshalltown:** Russell Watt, 61  
**Marshalltown:** Lee Brintnall, 64  
**Muscatine:** Harvey Allbee, 53  
**Muscatine:** Marvin Krieger, 70  
**Nevada:** Harold Brinkman, 55  
**Nevada:** Eldon Boswell (Honorary), 55  
**Newton:** Frederick Kramer (Honorary), 53  
**Northwest Des Moines:** Marvin Johnson, 52  
**Pella:** Richard Wilson, 55  
**Washington:** Robert Kennedy, 54  
**Washington:** Richard Colby, 54  
**Wellman:** Jared Powell (Honorary), 55  
**Wellman:** James Palmer (Honorary), 57  
**Wellman:** Albion Young, 67  
**West Liberty:** James Conrey, 51  
**West Liberty:** Ken Donnelly, 52  
**West Liberty:** William (Bill) Koellner, 52  
**West Liberty:** Robert Cline, 59  
**West Liberty:** Thomas Brooke, 70  
**Winterset:** Robert Newton, 51

## Rotary Club of Ames was chartered March 1, 1921

With the close of World War I, a number of Ames businessman became interested in organizing a Rotary club. A survey form was completed and submitted in 1920, with the blessing of our sponsor, the Rotary Club of Boone.

At the time, the City of Ames had a population of 6,000. The survey also showed that the active community had four banks, a building and loan association, 50 retail stores, eight churches, two hotels and two railroads.

In reply to the question, "Why do you believe the city is ready for a Rotary club?" the response was, "It is a good, live, hustling town; its businessmen are progressive and would welcome an organization such as Rotary affords."

Rotary International approved and chartered the Ames Rotary Club on March 1, 1921 as the 836th Rotary Club internationally. The founding 21 members met in the basement of the Sheldon Munn Hotel (thus water stain on the Club Charter, from water main break flooding the basement of the hotel). The club moved to the "new" Holiday Inn on South Duff Avenue (the location of Great Western Bank now), before establishing our weekly club meetings at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center when it opened in 1972.



The club's first home, the Sheldon Munn Hotel in downtown Ames.







## RAG4Clubfoot

# Global Grant would train doctors in Brazil

**By Nenu Piragine/Iowa City AM**

The Rotary Club of Iowa City AM and the Rotary Club of Grand Bourge (Buenos Aires, Argentina) have collaborated to write a Rotary Foundation Global Grant to train orthopedists in the Ponseti Method. The request has been submitted to The Rotary Foundation and we wait to hear their decision. A summary of the project is below.

A Ponseti Method (PM) Training Seminar to take place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, later this year. Its goal is to train pediatric surgeons to achieve the eradication of clubfoot in that country. It was at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC) where Dr. Ignacio Ponseti started and perfected the method that carries his name.

Argentina has a population of 44 million and the number of new cases per year is estimated to be 1,000. The number of children and adults who live with clubfoot is not known.

There will be seven pediatric surgeons from Argentina's Pediatric State Hospitals. The seven hospitals the surgeons represent have committed to dedicate an office for the Ponseti Clinics where the surgeons will talk to parents of children born with clubfoot, treat patients, and keep a registry of the cases treated.

The Training Seminar will have an eight months' duration, and its leader will be Dr. Jose Morcuende, Ponseti International Association director in Iowa City. The first part of the seminar will last five days, during which Dr. Morcuende will inform about and teach the PM to the surgeons.

During the second part, the pediatric surgeons will set up a Ponseti Clinic in each one of their hospitals, where they will talk to parents of children with clubfoot, treat the patients, and keep a record of the number of cases they treat. The pediatric surgeons will be invited to participate, every three months, in web seminars for Latin America, organized by the Ponseti International Association (PIA).



**Dr. Jose Morcuende of the Ponseti International Association instructs trainees of the Ponseti Method casting technique during a training in Brazil. District 6000 is awaiting review by The Rotary Foundation of a Global Grant to train orthopedists in Argentina.**

During the third part, Dr. Morcuende will return to Argentina to check on the PC, to see the patients' registries, and to answer questions the doctors may have.

The institutions that collaborate to organize this PM Seminar are: 1) In Buenos Aires, Argentina, the Rotary Club Grand Bourge, and Dr. Miguel Paz, pediatric surgeon, Malvinas Argentinas Pediatric Hospital; 2) In the USA, the PM International, Rotary District 6000, the Rotary Club of Iowa City AM, and Dr. Jose Morcuende, Ponseti Method director, at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

## Tomeka Petersen succeeds John Ockenfels as co-chair

PDG John Ockenfels quietly relinquished his role as co-chair of the RAG4Clubfoot board at the July meeting. John served as a charter member and the first co-chair from D-6000, following PDG Herb Wilson, founder of RAG4Clubfoot. At the time John accepted the position, he had many other responsibilities, but he always found time to lead the board as we moved to fulfill our commitment to fund Iowa's Gift to the World.

In his work in connecting and facilitating districts to support the training of orthopedic surgeons in the Ponseti Method of treating clubfoot, John was indirectly responsible for helping children afflicted with clubfoot gain a normal life, where they could play, jump and run with their families and playmates. John would probably love to grab the hand of each of those children and run with them.

John will stay on as an active member of the board, but he is also pursuing another dream: to pilot a plane around the world with fellow Rotarian Peter Teahan. The purpose of the flight will be to raise money for End Polio Now.

John's leadership, quiet strength and hard work, including

attending multiple PETS and Rotary International Conventions to share the message of our work, are deeply appreciated by the board. Those who work with John, know that his wife Deb, is never far away, and together they have given time, expertise and their hearts to RAG4Clubfoot pursuits. John and Deb are also generous donors to RAG4Clubfoot, reaching the Strider level of giving of \$10,000.

Thank you for your leadership, John, and Godspeed!



**Tomeka Petersen**

**Tomeka Petersen**, Rotarian of the Iowa City Downtown Club, has stepped into the co-chair position. She serves along with Dennis Jordan. Tomeka has been involved with RAG4Clubfoot since its inception. She previously was employed with Ponseti International Association, has served on a Ponseti Method VTT team in Sao Paulo, Brazil and for a few years, she served as the RAG4Clubfoot administrator.

# Rotary Foundation is facing two challenges

By PDG Chris Knapp

District 6000 Rotary Foundation Chair

This year District Foundation Chair Chris Knapp is hitting the Rotary club circuit. To date he has visited 30 clubs with 90 percent of the visits being done via Zoom.



PDG Chris Knapp

The foci of these visits are to inform the clubs what our district has accomplished by giving to the Annual Fund, how efficiently we have used those funds in both district and Global Grant opportunities and what the future holds for District 6000 Rotarians engagement with The Rotary Foundation.

District 6000 has been very fortunate in having district-wide financial support. This support has enabled our district, for the past several years, to fund over \$100,000 in **Community Grants** (see page 4).

Additionally, over the past 12 years, financially engaging in over \$5 million in **Global Grant** initiatives. With these Annual Fund Foundation dollars, district Rotarians have improved the lives of thousands of people both in Iowa and around the world.

*Our Foundation is facing two challenges.*

**The first challenge** is increasing requests for funds to support both Global and District Grants.

The Rotary Foundation's seven Areas of Focus have been embraced world-wide and have been supported broadly by host and sponsoring districts. At the same time, districts are using district grants for projects that we are familiar with, such as computers and other educational materials.

But now, during this pandemic, Rotarians are aiding those that are food insecure, and providing hospitals with COVID-19 aid such as PPE and ventilators.

**The second challenge** is decreasing Rotary membership. With fewer Rotarians in districts across the globe the result is less in contributions to The Rotary Foundation.

This year, and into the future, to aid people both in our district and around the globe, district Rotarians should seek new members and engage them in Rotary service.

We need to celebrate the accomplishments that our grants have made possible. We need to encourage contributing generously to The Rotary Foundation. Rotarians do Make a Difference. Rotary Opens Opportunities! We are Serving Humanity around the world and in the communities that we live in.

## WAYS TO GIVE

# Three primary funds: Polio, Annual and Endowment

By Doyle Sanders/Northwest Des Moines

District 6000 Endowment Fund Chair

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) has three primary funds:

- 1) **Polio Eradication Fund**, where our PolioPlus dollars go;
- 2) **Annual Fund**, where our regular Foundation giving goes.
- 3) **Endowment Fund**, where only the increase (interest, dividends, capital gains) will be spent and our dollars will support Rotary into perpetuity.



Doyle Sanders

If we give \$1,000 to the Polio Eradication Fund or the Annual Fund, TRF recognizes us as Paul Harris Fellows.

If we give \$1,000 to the Endowment Fund, we become Benefactors. And if we give \$10,000 or more, we are recognized as Bequest Society Members.

Most of the money going to the Endowment Fund comes from planned gifts. These are gifts that only go into effect at our deaths, such as gifts that given in our wills or trusts or through beneficiary designations in life insurance, retirement accounts, or annuities.

Planned gifts are easy and sometimes profitable. The easiest and most profitable is to name The Rotary Foundation as a beneficiary of our retirement funds. It is profitable because gifts of retirement funds to The Rotary Foundation avoid income taxes that family members have to pay when they are the recipients of our IRA or 401(k) or 403(b) death benefits.

**How easy is it?** Obtain a beneficiary designation form from your retirement fund administrator. If you manage your fund online, simply make the designation online or print the form and fill it in. The form will have a space for the primary beneficiary's name. Just put "The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International" in the blank. Other information requested usually is the address:

14280 Collections Center Drive, Chicago, IL 60693.

and the tax ID number (TIN): 36-3245072.

There is usually a place to note a percentage to give to each

beneficiary. If you want to give the entire fund to TRF, fill in "100 Percent." Otherwise, note a smaller percentage for TRF. Maybe you prefer to make a Rotary tithe of 10 percent. If you are worried that your loved ones will need a larger share, consider giving as little as 1 percent to The Foundation. In those cases, insert names of your other beneficiaries and the percentage you want them to have so that all the gifts total 100 percent.

If you prefer to hold the assets for your spouse during your spouse's lifetime, name your spouse as primary beneficiary and TRF as a contingent beneficiary.

To submit online, simply follow the instructions. If you are sending it by mail or fax, sign and file or deliver it as instructed. It is as easy as that. It is always a good idea to consult about this with your estate planning attorney.

Finally, you want to be sure to report your planned gift to TRF so that TRF knows about the gifts and you are named a Benefactor and Bequest Society member as appropriate, AND so that some of the spending portion of your gift comes back to the District if that is your choice. To do that, go to the following link:

<https://www.rotary.org/en/rotary-endowment>

Scroll to the "Additional Resources" section near the bottom of the page and click on "Planned Gifts." That will bring up a brochure for you to print, complete and mail to TRF with your identifying information and the amount of the planned gift. There are several choices for how you want the spending portion of your gift to be used. If you are willing, we in District 6000 would appreciate the gift be directed to SHARE so that some of the spending portion can be directed back to District 6000.

If you have questions about the information in this article or would like help with this, you may contact Doyle Sanders, chair of the District 6000 Endowment Fund Subcommittee at [sanders.doyle@bradshawlaw.com](mailto:sanders.doyle@bradshawlaw.com) or (515) 246-5821. Other committee members who can help are Jacque Andrew and Steve Morain.



# Rotary Foundation Giving: APF, Polio, Endowments

## District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020 (Final Report)

(Members: July 1, 2015-16-17-18-19)	(1) 19-20 Goal	(2) % of Goal	(3) Per capita	(4) Thru 6-30-20	(5) PolioPlus	(6) Other (*)	(7) TOTAL
Adel (37-37-34-32-28)	\$ 4,300	93	\$ 142.14	\$ 3,980	\$ 150	\$ 0	\$ 4,130
Albia (22-28-28-24-24)	750	120	37.50	3,980	0	0	900
Ames (224-226-217-206-186)	25,000	95	127.75	23,761	10,545	15,784	50,090
Ames Morning (55-55-59-59-52)	6,000	111	128.08	6,660	1,161	1,050	8,871
Ankeny (61-77-85-86-83)	13,500	123	200.00	16,600	7,920	4,563	29,083
Atlantic (58-58-58-56-62)	1,975	182	58.10	3,602	0	0	3,602
Bettendorf (103-101-102-105-93)	9,000	144	139.52	12,975	0	0	12,975
Bloomfield (10-10-10-11-12)	1,000	210	175	2,100	280	0	2,380
Boone (42-34-41-51-50)	4,200	433	363.90	18,195	6,664	1,050	25,909
Burlington (80-79-80-80-76)	4,000	58	30.53	2,320	0	0	2,320
Carroll (46-44-43-44-42)	3,500	33	27.38	1,150	100	0	1,250
Centerville (50-46-45-46-45)	5,000	63	70.00	3,150	0	0	3,150
Chariton (41-41-34-30-39)	4,000	138	141.54	5,520	525	0	6,045
Clinton (98-97-94-90-91)	10,000	90	99.29	9,035	1,564	300	10,899
Coon Rapids (27-31-34-30-29)	1,500	100	51.72	1,500	0	0	1,500
Coralville-N. Corridor (20-21-22-24-23)	2,000	158	136.96	3,150	920	0	4,070
Corning (34-33-32-32-31)	1,252	178	71.74	2,224	1,000	0	3,224
Corydon (18-15-15-17-16)	1,200	25	18.75	300	0	0	300
Creston (23-19-17-18-21)	200	50	4.76	100	90	0	190
Dallas Center (27-29-26-25-28)	2,800	100	100.36	2,810	0	0	2,810
Davenport (112-113-110-107-101)	30,000	33	97.18	9,815	1,600	0	11,415
Decatur County (30-32-31-30-30)	6,000	126	251.97	7,559	1,496	0	9,055
Des Moines (276-270-269-255-240)	21,000	112	97.90	23,495	3,076	4,200	30,771
Des Moines AM (170-170-179-189-194)	14,000	108	77.84	15,100	1,204	0	16,304
East Polk County (34-31-29-29-27)	2,500	126	117.07	3,161	1,735	0	4,896
Fairfield (74-60-57-56-47)	4,000	59	49.79	2,340	1,220	0	3,560
Fort Madison (49-53-55-51-48)	4,000	116	96.88	4,650	474	0	5,124
Greater Des Moines (12-12-11-13-26)	1,000	60	23.08	600	0	0	600
Grinnell (38-40-35-38-36)	4,750	106	140.14	5,045	0	1,050	6,095
Indianola (54-53-54-47-39)	4,000	62	63.72	2,485	714	0	3,199
Iowa City (312-329-333-317-293)	50,000	81	138.14	40,475	7,750	0	48,225
Iowa City AM (66-69-74-71-74)	13,000	206	361.01	26,715	27,525	0	54,240
Iowa City Downtown (23-21-23-25-22)	4,000	95	172.50	3,795	1,266	0	5,061
Iowa Quad-Cities (41-42-38-42-38)	3,500	75	69.47	2,640	918	10,000	13,558
Jefferson (59-59-56-60-59)	5,500	120	111.85	6,599	1,641	0	8,240
Johnston (60-49-52-43-49)	8,000	90	146.33	7,170	1,560	0	8,730
Kalona (42-41-43-40-38)	2,500	52	34.21	1,300	2,000	0	3,300
Keokuk (66-71-57-53-45)	3,500	86	66.89	3,010	601	0	3,611
Keosauqua (24-22-23-24-26)	1,200	58	26.92	700	0	0	700
Knoxville (61-58-48-53-45)	3,400	92	69.44	3,125	2,875	0	6,000
Lenox (29-28-27-25-25)	1,200	69	33.00	825	2,766	0	825
Manning (19-25-21-23-22)	2,500	0	0	0	38	42	80
Marengo (11-10-10-11-10)	200	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marshalltown (150-147-145-133-127)	10,000	60	54.15	6,877	2,766	0	9,643
Mount Pleasant Noon (52-55-47-51-56)	5,000	50	44.50	2,492	2,930	0	5,422
Mount Pleasant (20-20-18-18-16)	400	138	34.38	550	869	15,750	17,169
Muscatine (79-77-69-66-67)	13,000	68	132.87	8,902	900	0	9,802
Nevada (71-69-61-53-54)	8,000	98	144.44	7,800	2,250	450	10,050
Newton (60-55-49-40-36)	3,500	46	44.86	1,615	2,440	0	4,318
North Scott (85-86-89-88-88)	12,000	144	196.88	17,325	4,100	45,200	66,625
N'West Des Moines (34-40-36-37-36)	8,000	96	213.33	7,680	4,030	0	11,710
Norwalk (0-0-20-24-18)	500	400	111.11	2,000	0	0	2,000
Osceola (28-29-25-22-22)	700	36	11.36	250	0	0	250
Oskaloosa (56-55-57-54-59)	4,500	58	44.24	2,610	1,500	0	4,110
Ottumwa (97-98-92-89-82)	8,000	31	30.49	2,500	100	0	2,600
Pella (29-30-29-29-26)	2,800	117	126.45	3,288	2,096	0	5,383
Perry (26-26-26-23-23)	400	36	6.30	145	0	0	145
Tipton (30-26-27-22-28)	1,500	15	7.86	220	879	0	1,099
Washington (49-48-43-42-43)	4,300	100	100.00	4,300	500	0	4,800
Waukee (58-64-69-64-68)	8,500	188	234.41	15,940	8,058	100	24,098
Wellman (36-34-30-29-26)	2,575	53	52.65	1,369	335	0	1,704
West Des Moines (62-63-52-51-50)	5,500	94	103.00	5,150	3,173	2,605	10,928
West Liberty (43-44-46-41-38)	11,000	165	476.32	18,100	3,095	0	21,195
West Polk County (31-18-19-20-24)	1,000	40	16.67	400	2,100	0	2,500
Winterset (25-30-33-29-28)	2,500	195	174.43	4,884	5,115	1,050	11,049
District Contributions				100	1,960	52,808	54,868
<b>Total (3,854-3,853-3,793-3,693-3,580)</b>	<b>\$ 404,602</b>	<b>100.13%</b>	<b>\$ 113.17</b>	<b>\$ 405,133</b>	<b>\$ 137,906</b>	<b>\$ 155,791</b>	<b>\$ 698,856</b>

(\*) Other includes endowment fund and restricted giving for grants

## BOONE

# Full steam ahead for Welcome Train!

By Lisa Mount and David Cook/Boone

It is not every day you see a historic steam locomotive, coal tender, and passenger car weighing over 300,000 pounds rolling down the street, but that is exactly what happened in Boone, Iowa, the days of July 22nd and 23rd.

This central Iowa community known for its railroad heritage saw its newly restored Welcome Train being moved across town from its original home at the Boone and Scenic Valley Railroad, to its new home adjacent to Highway 30.

Project planning began early in 2017 when the Rotary Club of Boone started preparing for the club's centennial celebration in May of 2019. At the time, the club was searching for a one-of-a-kind service project to commemorate this historic occasion, while also wanting to give back to the Boone community. With that in mind, the enormous wheels of the Welcome Train were set in motion.

"Just as many Iowans associate the town of Pella with tulips, most associate Boone with trains, railroad history, and the Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad," said Dave Cook, Welcome Train project co-chair. Boone's Welcome Train builds on that long established railroad connection.

"This has become a labor of love for many volunteers and donors alike. The train was donated by the Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad (BSVRR). The Rotary Club of Boone provided the leadership, fundraising and sweat equity. Fox Engineering of Ames did an incredible job preparing the site plan. Fareway Stores was an early project champion and their support was crucial, as was Iowa Department of Transportation and the City of Boone."

Many local grants were given to the project, including a Rotary District 6000 Community Service Grant; grants from Grow Greene County, Prairie Meadows Community Betterment, Leonard Good Trust and Boone County Community Endowment and others, along with many donations from individuals and businesses.

Those who came to town on July 22nd and 23rd to watch the move take place or followed our Boone Rotary Facebook live event saw all three pieces of equipment move through town along the same route; starting at the BSVRR at 11th

and Harrison streets, moving east on 11th Street to Story Street, then south on Story Street and across Union Pacific railroad tracks.

After navigating through downtown along Story Street, each train car continued onto South Story Street to Hancock Drive, then turned one block east to South Marshall Street, finally turning south to the site located at 1919 S. Marshall Street.

All of the coordinated efforts of the city of Boone and their various departments, Elmquist Towing (Ames), Alliant Energy, MediaCom, CenturyLink, the Union Pacific Railroad, our hired moving companies and our Boone Rotary Welcome Train team was greatly appreciated and helped to ensure things went as smoothly as possible. While not everything ran on time or according to plan, by the end of the day on July 23rd all three train cars were on the railroad tracks at prepared site as intended.

The Welcome Train as it now sits is a half a football field long, weighs over 150 tons, and includes a steam locomotive, coal tender and passenger car, each painted in historically correct colors. The train is located just off Highway 30 at the entrance to Boone and looks as if it's heading into town.

After the move, in August, "Welcome to Boone" was painted on the tender in large, white letters for all to see. "We want to greet visitors in an unforgettable way and the size and scale of the Welcome Train will certainly do that," Cook said. Soon there will be more lettering added to the passenger car along with the Rotary International Logo.

Work is now underway on the next phase of the Welcome Train project. Boone Rotary is currently raising funds to add a walkway around the

train, lighting, landscaping, visitor information and donor recognition.

We would like to appeal to readers to consider a donation to this project. Please go to [www.boonerotary.com](http://www.boonerotary.com) or email [booneiarotary@gmail.com](mailto:booneiarotary@gmail.com) for more information. Donors wishing to contribute can mail a tax deductible donation to Rotary Welcome Train, P.O. Box 532, Boone, IA 50036. **Information:** Dave Cook, (515) 460-1424, email: [dccboone@msn.com](mailto:dccboone@msn.com); or Lisa Mount, (515) 298-0688, email: [lhitsman@hotmail.com](mailto:lhitsman@hotmail.com).



**Boone Rotary volunteers Lesley Dakin, Bob Herrick, Steve Dakin, Dave Cook, Pete Frangos and Lisa Mount, prepare the track for 150 tons of steel for the permanent site of the Welcome Train.**



# You're Invited. Be a part of history. Help the Rotary Club of Boone fund Phase 2 of the Welcome Train!



Additional funds are needed for lighting, sidewalk, benches and signage. Your tax deductible donations will be welcomed and acknowledged. Send to:

**Welcome Train/Boone Rotary - P.O. Box 532 - Boone, IA 50036**

Visit [www.boonerotary.com](http://www.boonerotary.com) for more details, or email [booneiarotary@gmail.com](mailto:booneiarotary@gmail.com)



(Advertisement)

## FORT MADISON

# \$100,000 in 100 days for City Central Park

By Joe Garza/Fort Madison

Club Public Image Chair

As with most other groups, the arrival of the coronavirus found us cancelling the remaining meetings in March, 2020. The saddest cancellation was the March 31st celebration of our 100 years of existence in service in Fort Madison. That didn't, however, stop our service to the community.

The club made financial donations to Meals on Wheels and the local Food Pantry and challenged other Fort Madison Service Clubs to follow suit. As a group, and as individual members, we provided a meal to the 25 school workers who were providing 600 lunches daily for the kids who relied on free school lunches. We reached out to the schools to contact students at home for our scholarship program and we again awarded three scholarships of \$1,000 each.

**This is a testament to the dedication of all Rotarians, in Fort Madison and throughout the world, that wars, depressions, natural disasters, and a devastating virus cannot stop us from "Service Above Self."**

Not knowing what the future held, but longing for continued fellowship with one another, we began Zoom meetings mid-April and soon added our weekly programs through this format as well. On Aug. 4, we returned to in-person meetings as well as continuing the opportunity for Zoom attendance by those who didn't feel comfortable meeting in person. Even in these times, we welcomed two new members to our club.

We continue working to raise funds for Operation Warm and are very proud to have completed the major fundraiser of \$100,000 in 100 days to celebrate our 100 years by renovating the City Central Park, which we adopted many years ago. The donor plaques have now been installed and pictures are included separately. A public celebration will be held when it is safe.

This is a testament to the dedication of all Rotarians, in Fort Madison and throughout the world, that wars, depressions, natural disasters, and a devastating virus cannot stop us from "Service Above Self."



**Fort Madison Central Park, a project of the Rotary Club of Fort Madison.**  
Photo by Daily Democrat/Jean Baxter Neuweg

## A fundraiser for you, NOW!

"Yes, we need a little Christmas – Right this very minute" Have you ever wished for a fundraiser promotion that requires little effort but has high profit potential? The Rotary Club of Decatur County has a deal for you! We have been a wholesale supplier of fresh balsam Northern Minnesota 25" wreaths to youth groups and service organizations for the past 20 years. Your \$15 wholesale price includes the cost of delivery. The suggested retail price is \$22. Quantity orders over 500 will reduce the wholesale cost to \$14 per wreath, leaving your group with an \$8 profit per sale!

We must receive orders prior to Nov. 1. Our delivery date to you is Nov. 21. Contact us soon (dcrotarywreath@gmail.com) to initiate the process. Sell in September and October; deliver in November, and rake in the money in December. "We need a little Christmas now" – Loring Miller, Chris Coffelt, Sean Saxton



**Donor plaques at Central Park recognize the major contribution of the Rotary Club of Fort Madison.**



## IOWA CITY

# 'The AED provided by Rotary saved my life'

*Barb Thomas, president of the Rotary Club of Iowa City, wants Rotarians to see this heartfelt testimonial from a man, Greg Abbey, whose life was saved while riding RAGBRAI in 2019 because of an external AED provided by Rotary – a story that was told in the Iowa City Press-Citizen.*

*Barb said the letter couldn't have been more timely because it ties directly to a new program launched by the club: the Rotary Kerber HeartSafe Community Campaign. The initiative was launched with a \$5,000 grant from the Iowa City Noon Rotary Club which was matched with a \$5,000 Rotary Foundation Community Service grant from Rotary District 6000.*

*The program, led by chair Jim Merchant, emeritus dean of the University of Iowa College of Public Health, is designed to provide AEDs in several locations, training to area Rotarians and others, and to develop an app that would provide a map of area AEDs. To date, the program has purchased five AEDs and provided training to more than 100 Rotarians and community members.*

*Working with the Community Foundation of Johnson County, the committee has raised additional funds for the cause. For information, contact Jim Merchant at 319-321-8339 or visit the website at: [iowaheartsafe.org](http://iowaheartsafe.org).*

## Hello Barbara and the Iowa City Noon Rotary Club members,

This has been a difficult and divisive year for all of us, so I wanted to brighten your day with a little bit of joy from Seattle, Washington. My name is Greg Abbey and I am celebrating an extraordinary anniversary, in an important way due to you and the philanthropy of the Iowa City Noon Rotary Club.

I am writing to give you and some incredibly wonderful people in Iowa a BIG THANK YOU! for the important community work you do.

You see, some time ago, your club made it possible to donate AED units to some of the first responders in your area. One officer, Robert Conrad of the Iowa State Patrol, was able to secure one of those life-saving AED units and has carried it around with him in his patrol car for a few years. He carried it so long that by last year, the batteries needed replacement and he paid for the batteries out of his own pocket.

Last year, I flew out from Seattle with a friend and was having the time of my life riding in that massive event/bike-ride/rolling party you call the RAGBRAI, enjoying the beautiful state of Iowa and especially the friendliness and comradery shown to me by your fellow Iowans. On this day, one year ago, 83 hot miles of riding out of Indianola, my heart stopped and I died at the side of the road near Lake Rathbun, just short of Centerville.

I'd been in an accident in Indianola 5:30 that morning only minutes into my ride. A fellow cyclist needed some help and as I slowed, another cyclist not paying attention, ran me over and broke my derailleur – a hard part to find for a highly specialized bike early in the morning in small town Iowa, but the Iowa bike shops were up to the task and I sped out of town on a gruesomely hot day at 10:30 a.m. By mid afternoon after those 83 miles, I was pretty cooked, and the feeling of a lump in my chest caused me to pull over to step off my bike. Honestly, I don't remember anything else from that day except the loud metallic clunk of a gurney being clamped down as I momentarily met the gaze of the helicopter pilot looking down at me as we headed to the MercyOne Iowa Heart Center in Des Moines.

What I missed after everything went black, was a gift of extraordinary luck or providence. Two EMT's from the



**Greg Abbey: 'Your AED saved my life.'**

Photo Contributed

Johnston-Grimes Fire department, brothers Ty and Ryan Wheeler, just happened to be riding their bikes a few hundred yards behind me – I might have even passed them earlier as I was riding hard to make up for my lost hours in the morning.

What a stroke of luck to have a pair of EMTs moments away just as you have a heart attack! Fifteen minutes of CPR later, I am told, Officer Robert Conrad of the Iowa State Patrol who was providing safety to riders down the road, arrived on the scene. What a stroke of luck to have an officer with an AED and new batteries nearby just as you have a heart attack! It took three shocks from the paddles to get my heart restarted and return me to this world. The Wheeler brothers, Officer Conrad, and your AED device saved my life that day.

They say I took an ambulance to nearby MercyOne in Centerville and immediately transferred me for the helicopter ride landing me at Des Moines MercyOne Iowa Heart Center where my lucky streak continued, as Dr. Verhofste, head of Cardiology with his amazing team of doctors and nurses prioritized an emergency triple bypass and gave me many more grateful years of life.

As I lay in the hospital in quite some pain I was visited by the Iowa Patrolmen Sergeant (now lieutenant) Nathan Ludwig and Robert Conrad who shared the story of how Conrad acquired one of only a very few AEDs carried by the State Patrol, provided by your Rotary. These have not been issued to the troopers in your state, so what a stroke of luck that it was one of the only officers in the state who carried his own AED, who bought a new battery for it, was the man at my side.

I want you to know that I am in great health now, enjoying my work, my family and grandchildren. I was even preparing to ride in this year's RAGBRAI where I hoped to bring you my thanks in person. Let's hope for a healthy next year.

Maybe it wasn't luck at all, but rather the care and love for even a stranger in need, and the foresight of the good people of Iowa like you of the Iowa City Noon Rotary, the Johnston-Grimes Fire Department, the Iowa State Patrol and so many dedicated teams of people at Mercy One. Today is my first re-birthday and I want to Thank You for being a part of it and celebrate with me!

With sincere thanks and forever gratefulness,  
Your honorary Iowan at heart and luckiest guy ever,

**Greg Abbey**

Lynnwood, WA 9803

## CLINTON

## Mental illness campaign and NON-Event fundraiser

By Jill O'Neill/Clinton

Club Secretary

The Rotary Club of Clinton has begun to meet both in-person and online since returning to meetings. We are now offering hybrid meetings so members who are unable to make it to the physical meeting can still participate and be a valued member of our club. Unfortunately, a lot of our spring club activities and community programs had to be put on hold, but we felt it imperative to continue to meet and be together as a club. We are anxiously awaiting when we get back into the community and the schools again!

Additionally, we have teamed up with the Rotary Club of Plympton (Plymouth, UK) to combat mental illness. Rotarians have been encouraged to participate in the "Don't Bottle It Up!" campaign, which encourages speaking out, and help is out there. You can learn more about this endeavor and join the fun by visiting the Facebook Page, "Rotarians 4 Mental Health." Jill O'Neill, Rotary Club of Clinton's club secretary, is featured in the poster for "Don't Bottle It Up!"

Finally, we will be hosting our first ever NON-Event fundraiser in October! Because of COVID-19, we felt it was important to continue to fundraise for our club so we can continue being People of Action, within our community, however, we didn't want to take a chance and risk



The Rotary Club of Clinton is promoting a NON-Event online fundraiser in October called "Boo Bash." Members will be able to participate and raise funds without the risk of transmitting or receiving COVID-19.

our members or people in the community becoming sick. Our fundraising committee is still working on putting this



Rotary Club of Clinton secretary Jill O'Neill is featured on the club's Facebook page promoting help for mental illness with the theme "Don't Bottle It Up," which encourages people to speak out.

together, however, we will be creating a non-event, where members can still participate and fundraise for our club.



## Rotary Club of Des Moines honors educators

The Rotary Club of Des Moines honored five educators of the year on May 14. Each educator received a \$1,000 classroom stipend and a traveling plaque to be placed at each of their schools. The club has been honoring educators for over 30 years. This was the first year we featured our recipients on a traveling billboard. This billboard went up in August and will be moved around the City of Des Moines for the next 12 months. The Rotary Club of Des Moines Foundation made this billboard possible. These are the educators we honored and their respective school: Tim Berger (Brody Middle School), Joy Martin (Brubaker Elementary), Canada Snyder (Central Academy), Trevor Stevens (Central Campus), and Tim Tutt (Hanawalt Elementary). This is a link to the Zoom meeting when we honored our educators: <https://youtu.be/nTIHm9IV02g>.

Provided by Kittle Morehouse





In West Liberty, the message is clear

In June, the West Liberty Rotary board unanimously wanted to do something to help all ages cope with the COVID-19 experience, and adopted the "Stop the Spread" logo and voted to order 500 masks and free distribution to elderly, emergency care workers (police, EMT and firefighters) and the indigent population. We felt that signs to encourage everyone to wear a mask were important. Signs were designed by a Rotarian and erected at all entrances to the community. A special sign was erected at the park where new playground equipment has been installed. Posters were designed, printed and posted at all businesses and churches and public locations. Rotarians Deepak Giri and Cliff McFerren designed and constructed the signs.

Provided by Bill Koellner and Gretchen Nollman



The Rotary Club of Atlantic welcomed new teachers, front (l-r): Noah Widrowicz and Brandon Baggett. Back: Amberly Schechinger, Mary McBride and Sarah Rose. Not able to attend was Ashley Coffman.

## Rotary Club of Atlantic welcomes new teachers

By AG Dolly Bergmann

District 6000 Vocational Chair

After not meeting since March, the Rotary Club of Atlantic met on Aug. 18th for its annual New Teacher Appreciation event.

The 2020-21 school year added six new teachers to the staff. Three of the new teachers will be working in the high school, with the other three in the middle school. Each of the teachers were asked to give a brief introduction of themselves, telling everyone a little about their family and what they will be teaching.

This has been a tradition of Atlantic Rotary for many years.



## Social distancing

Rotary Club of Des Moines members gathered in Greenwood Park on June 11th for some fellowship while practicing social distancing, (l-r): Jamie Boersma, David Oman, John Lewis, John Tone, Don Flannery, Doug Saltgaver and Shawn Mullen.

Photo by Kitte Morehouse, Club Executive Director

## NEVADA

# Evening Satellite Club expands Rotary's reach

By AG Michelle Cassabaum/Nevada

The Rotary Club of Nevada has been working for over two years on boosting its membership by offering an evening component to the club. The goal was to make a more affordable and flexible option for potential new members.

Past president Sara Clausen had a satellite club as one of her goals and has been working diligently towards achieving this goal. Membership chair Christa Skaggs has been instrumental in the organization of the evening group.



Michelle Cassabaum

Prior to the pandemic, then-Governor-Elect Steve Dakin visited one of our exploratory events and witnessed the energy surrounding the group. The board and club have been very supportive and have participated in the effort, with three to 10 members attending the exploratory sessions.

On Thursday, Sept. 3, nine individuals committed to being part of the evening Nevada Rotary Club with nine Rotarians from Noon sponsoring these potential members. The prospective new members understand how important The Rotary Foundation, and the Rotary Club of Nevada will continue to be an Every Rotarian Every Year club, with each potential new member agreeing to support with a minimum annual gift of \$100 a year.

The board has approved their membership and it has been submitted to the membership of the club for approval. There will be a great celebration on the evening of their induction, Oct. 8th, when the noon group will change its regular meeting to the new evening time to welcome the newest members to the Nevada Rotary Club. Stay tuned, we are still recruiting!!

## NORTHWEST DES MOINES

# 'Pickleball for a Purpose' is a Win-Win-Win

By Bill Corwin/Northwest Des Moines  
Club President

A shout out for all rotation, who have also has been bitten by the pickleball bug.

The Rotary Club of Northwest Des Moines is again putting on the "Pickleball for a Purpose" pickleball tournament.

**Win No. 1** is that on National Pickleball day, 10-10-2020, we have indoor courts booked in a premier pickleball sports bar, restaurant venue (Smash Park, in West Des Moines) reserved for our tournament. You can play pickleball in Iowa in October regardless of the weather.



**Win No. 2** is you as a rotation you can represent and compete for your club. A part of our tournament is the unofficial Rotary champions tournament. All teams with at least one Rotarian on the team will automatically be competing for the 36-inch tall traveling trophy. This trophy will go back to your club to display in your club or in

your city hall as you choose. The only requirement is that bring it back next year when you come to defend your title.

**Win No. 3** is that all the proceeds from the tournament, and the raffle associated with it, provide warm coats for children in the Northwest Des Moines area. Last year we funded over \$9,000 in Coats for the Kids. Our fun day has a purpose beyond our enjoyment that lasts for years. Truly effortless Service Above Self. We expect that this year the need will be greater.

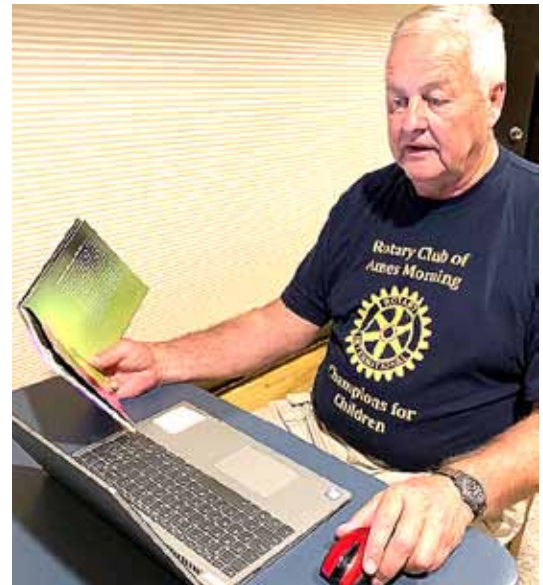
The registration is \$40 per player, or \$ 80 per team, and includes breakfast, a T shirt, a minimum of three games, a player-only raffle for prizes and a swag bag for each player.

After last year, our first year, we got great comments from players and volunteers, and the most-asked question is when can we do it again? We do have a cap at 70 players. We still have room for more rotation teams to fill out the champion tournament.

The tournament is all doubles. We have beginner, intermediate and advanced levels bracket for men's, women's and mixed teams. We already have players coming from all over Iowa and several surrounding states. This year our tournament has had some difficulties with COVID-19. We have had to move the tournament from April to our new date 10-10-2020. This new date fell on National Pickleball Day, (a pleasant coincidence).

We have had a lot of assistance from, and want to again say thank you to Smash Park, Urbandale Community Action Network, and the Des Moines Metro Pickleball Club <https://dmmp.club>. If you want more details and to register visit our website at <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/1664>. If you have any questions contact Bill D Corwin at 515-779-1268 or [Wdcorwin@Gmail.com](mailto:Wdcorwin@Gmail.com).

Ames Morning  
Rotarian  
Dave Miller  
connecting  
with  
grandchildren  
online.



## Promoting literacy during COVID

By Carolyn Jons/Ames Morning  
District 600 Literacy Promotion

District 6000 Rotary clubs have a proud tradition of promoting literacy. However, personal interactions are risky now, so the District Literacy Team is offering adaptations and other literacy options with your safety in mind. Community support is needed more than ever as families have children at home, and many preschools and schools are closed or resorting to hybrid or online learning.

We have created a presentation to help clubs continue to promote literacy in this COVID environment. Past District Governor Tom Narak narrated an 11-minute video that clubs can easily view, whether they meet online or in person. A member of the D6000 Literacy team would be happy to participate in your meeting. Also, check out the Literacy Promotion section of the D6000 website for additional resources and related literacy links.

Please contact the D6000 Literacy co-chairs to arrange for a club program about promoting literacy: Carol Narak at [tom.carol@msn.com](mailto:tom.carol@msn.com) or Jerri Heid at [jheid@amespubliclibrary.org](mailto:jheid@amespubliclibrary.org).

With literacy and education initiatives, we Rotarians are opening doors to brighter futures for our children and for all of us.



## Lenox 'Pocket Park'

The Rotary Club of Lenox received a Community Service Grant from the Rotary Foundation for the new "Pocket Park." The Rotary emblem will be front and center. This was a project headed up by the Leading Ladies of Lenox with assistance from the city and Rotary.

Provided by Alan Ritchie



**DES MOINES AM**

# Nonprofits fighting COVID receive funds

**By Sally Cooper Smith/Des Moines AM**

Club Public Image Chair

In June, the Rotary Club of Des Moines AM announced it will donate up to \$10,000 to 12 Central Iowa nonprofits who have been directly impacted by COVID-19.

"Rotary Club of Des Moines AM is a local network of more than 200 community and business leaders who believe in service above self. In the absence of weekly breakfast meetings during the pandemic it was only natural for the club to redirect the meal and meeting space funds to further support our community and its nonprofits who are coping with an additional set of challenges right now," said club president, Jennifer Chittenden.

The club is donating to several local nonprofits, including Bailing Out Benji and Eat Greater Des Moines. Bailing Out Benji is like food pantry for pets. COVID-19 has caused many central Iowans to have reduced work hours, therefore, they are no longer able to afford pet food and supplies for their furry friends. "Because of the DMAM Rotary Club's recent donation to our pet food pantry, we were able to purchase much needed dry cat food," said the founder and director, Mindi Callison. Callison says they have seen a record number of families who are in desperate



**Rotary Club of Des Moines AM volunteers at work.**

need of pet food and supplies for their pets because of COVID-19.

Eat Greater Des Moines is using its donation from the club to continue Operation: Fresh Produce Drop. Executive director of Eat Greater Des Moines, Aubrey Alvarez, says "Twice a week we distribute thousands of pounds of food boxes with fresh produce and dairy to non-traditional hunger relief partners like affordable housing communities, childcare centers, schools, and churches. This donation helps us ensure that all of our neighbors are getting access to good food during these challenging times."

The following organizations were selected by the club to receive a donation:

**Bailing Out Benji:** \$500  
**Beacon of Life:** \$500  
**Bidwell Riverside Center:** \$500  
**Capitol View School:** \$500  
**Children & Family Urban Movement:** \$1,500  
**Des Moines Community Playhouse:** \$1,000  
**Des Moines Public Schools Food, Nutrition:** \$500  
**Eat Greater Des Moines:** \$500  
**Food Bank of Iowa:** \$1,000  
**Kenya Family Fire Victim:** \$500  
**Lutheran Park Community:** \$1,000  
**YMCA Supportive Housing:** \$500

## FOOD FOR 4,984 FAMILIES

# CommUnity grateful to Iowa City area Rotary clubs

**By Julia Erickson**

From Community Crisis Services

CommUnity Crisis Services and Food Bank is grateful for the support received from the Iowa City Area Rotary clubs. Each summer since July 2016, the Rotary clubs have participated in a friendly competition known as the "Food Fight" to raise funds and food donations for the Food Bank, and compete for the coveted Golden Turkey.

During the summer months, donations to the food bank typically decrease while the need increases.

Between 2016 and 2019, the Iowa City area Rotary clubs donated a total of 161,681 pounds of food to help fight hunger in Johnson County.

In 2020, amidst the coronavirus pandemic, the Iowa City area Rotary clubs went above and beyond their call and donated nearly \$20,000 to CommUnity Food Bank.

With CommUnity's connections to bulk food suppliers, we were able to purchase 99,687 pounds of food to serve our neighbors in need. Thanks to the generosity of our area Rotarians CommUnity was able to serve 4,984 Johnson County families.

From supporting CommUnity's programs financially to preparing Birthday Bags, to grilling at the Warehouse Reopening, we are grateful for the lasting partnership with our Iowa City area Rotary clubs!

Thank you all, for being a part of our community!



**Amy Nicholson of the Iowa City AM Rotary Club gives the coveted Golden Turkey to Mark Ruggeberg of the Iowa City Downtown Rotary Club.**

## WEST LIBERTY

# Creating awareness, raising funds to fight trafficking

By AG Gretchen Nollman/West Liberty

District 6000 Vocational Chair

If you will recall, our community is 52-percent Latino.

On Jan. 20, we were able to present, along with Braking Traffick, the Program ANY KIND ANYWHERE, to the 150 staff and faculty members of our local school district, thanks to the generosity of our superintendent. That event was reported in our *West Liberty Index*.

During the two weeks preceding the World Day event, we were able to "post" our dual language Rescue Stickers in all the restaurants and gas stations in West Liberty. (See sample.)

The week of the event, we had an in-depth article in the *West Liberty Index* speaking to Human Trafficking, to include both Labor and Sex Trafficking.

## World Day event

Our second annual World Day event was held on July 30 in RonDeVoo Park (a local park) on our main street. With COVID-19, we did not know if anyone would attend the event.

Mercy Medical of Iowa City donated 80 bratwursts and 80 hamburgers. Hy-Vee donated the brat and hamburger buns, so all the needed condiments, which were individually packaged due to COVID.

## LOOKING FOR A WAY OUT?

National Human Trafficking Hotline

**888-373-7888**

Or Text "Help" to 233733

Iowa Victim Service Call Center

**800-770-1650**

Or Text "iowahelp" to 20121



Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking & Slavery  
Red Contra la Trata de Personas y la Esclavitud en Iowa  
[www.iowanah.org](http://www.iowanah.org)



## ¿ESTÁS BUSCANDO UNA SALIDA?

Línea Nacional Contra la Trata de Personas

**888-373-7888**

O Envíe "Help" al 233733

Centro de Llamadas para Víctimas en Iowa

**800-770-1650**

O Envíe "iowahelp" al 20121

Simpson Home, Senior Living, donated the ice to preserve the food items. Other entities donated the individual bags of potato chips, water bottles, and the propane for cooking.

## Braking Traffick

Braking Traffick, a division of Family Services of Davenport, was represented by Pauline G., who also was show the video Any Kid Anywhere for the general public to view.

The event was attended and hosted by a dozen of the West Liberty Rotary Club

members. Also in attendance were Maggie Tinsman of Davenport, and Deanna Jensen-Valliere from North Scott.

This was a "Free Will Donation" for a meal of either a bratwurst or hamburger/cheeseburger with chips and water.

The event ran from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and again from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. We Served 116 meals and our community was over generous as we collected a total of \$1,663.24. These funds will be forwarded to the Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking. We are so appreciative of the community support we received.

## ANTI-TRAFFICKING RESOLUTION

# How your club can take a stand against human slavery

By George Belitos/Ames

Vice-Chair, Rotary International Action Group Against Slavery

The Rotary International Board of Directors has not taken a strong stand in the fight to end human trafficking and modern day slavery across the globe. Although RI International has endorsed the creation of the Rotary Action Group Against Slavery (RAGAS), RI has yet to adopt a resolution calling for the eradication of this heinous crime which is increasing because of COVID-19. George Belitos is a member of the RAGAS International Board and also is a District 6000 Rotarian and member of the Ames Rotary Club.

Dr. George Belitos

Dr. George would like to see District 6000 become the first Rotary district to propose an anti-trafficking resolution to Rotary International. He has prepared a proposed resolution which reads in part as follows:

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Rotary International to encourage all Rotarians to become more familiar with the growing problem of modern-day slavery, to be vigilant and report suspicious activity and to work towards solutions to end modern-day slavery in all its forms. Be it further resolved to encourage Rotary Clubs around the world to engage in projects to protect all victims*

*from hunger, neglect, abuse and all forms of exploitation and modern-day slavery.*

Now to answer the question about how your local club could help in this struggle to get RI to adopt this resolution. With the support of governor-elect Alka Khanolkar and current governor Steve Dakin, Dr. George is asking that each of the 65 clubs in Iowa endorse this resolution. Five clubs have already endorsed the resolution. Would your club be the next to present the resolution to its Board of Directors?

A full copy of the anti-trafficking resolution also contains several "whereas" statements justifying the resolution along with a statement of purpose. The full copy of the resolution can be accessed here: Bill please put a link to the attachment below here. Please note this is a Word document, which leaves a space for you to type your local club name. Once approved, your club is asked to send your resolution to Steve Dakin, District 6000 Governor. Please do this by the end of 2020, the District 6000 Rotary Board of Directors will then approve a district resolution and send it on to the Rotary Council on Resolutions, which next meets in 2021.

By taking a strong position, Rotary International will increase global awareness, engage Rotary clubs to initiate anti-trafficking service projects, publically deplore the evils of slavery and reach the hearts and minds of decision makers worldwide.



## TESTIMONIAL FROM MY CHILDHOOD

## 'A pulsating, airy sound stirred my curiosity'

By District Governor Steve Dakin/Boone

After church, Mom and Dad crowded into the family car, a blue '53 Dodge Coronet. Sundays were great for taking a drive, going out for dinner, or just driving over to see friends and chat. In the back seat sat the 7-year-old son and his younger annoying sister. These little trips were like a mini-adventure, but this trip was a little longer than just over to see the cousins or grandparents.

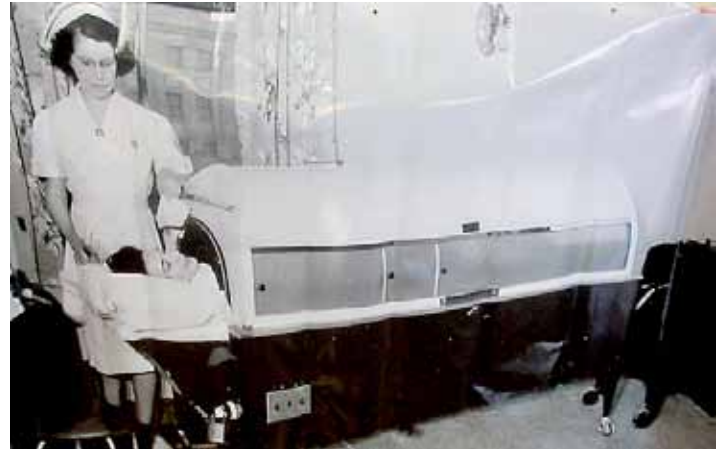
After nearly an hour of winding through the dusty backroads on this warm Iowa afternoon, the family pulled up the

**'I do not want any child to miss out on any of life's ordinary, or extraordinary experiences. It is this encounter that motivates me to campaign for funding PolioPlus. I can't wait for the celebration of a Polio-Free World.'**

tree-lined driveway and everyone clambered out. Mom led the way to the screened back door and into the large, noisy kitchen. Sundays, at that time, were a "day of rest" for farmers. After chores, visitors would wander by for a dessert or picnic lunch. Families were gathered and sharing greetings and hugs. To the young son, the room was crowded with strangers of all ages.

Taking in all the newness, and listening to the conversation in order to obtain clues as to the relationship of this strange group, this youngster was distracted by an unfamiliar sound. It was a pulsating, airy sound coming from another area of the house and unknown to him. Like all children, curiosity took hold, and he wandered along the wall, following the rush of air. The sound was growing louder and louder. Peeking around an opening, there stood a large, elongated, metal cylinder. This was where the sound originated. It was distinctive.

Totally bewildered, he saw a teenage girl's head protruding out of one end of that misplaced apparatus. "What is



**An iron lung at Blank Children's Hospital in Des Moines during the polio pandemic.**  
Provided by Dr. Steve Stephenson

that?" "Who is that?" "What is she doing in there?" Maybe he shouldn't be there. He could see her face reflected in the mirror above her head. As soon as the two made eye contact, he bolted back to the boisterous kitchen noises, and found comfort at his father's side.

Yes, that was an iron lung and yes, I was that inquisitive, curly-haired boy. I do not recall whose house it was that we visited that afternoon. I crawled into the back seat of that blue Coronet, bewildered by what I had seen.

After all those years, it is quite evident to me that I would never want anyone to spend time in an iron lung. The separation and isolation from everyday activities had to be unbearable. The feeling that a life was dependent on this mechanical device is overwhelming to me. I do not want any child to miss out on any of life's ordinary, or extraordinary experiences. It is this encounter that motivates me to campaign for funding PolioPlus. I can't wait for the celebration of a Polio-Free World.

## RYLA aims to return in 2021; adult counselors needed

By Wayne Steen/West Liberty

District 6000 RYLA Chair

Love Webs being sent to all of you from the team leaders from RYLA 2019. Love Webs are one of the many ingredients of RYLA magic. Want to learn more about RYLA magic? Become a Rotarian Volunteer for Iowa RYLA 2021!

Are you ready for RYLA 2021? After having to cancel RYLA in 2020 due to COVID-19, we are full speed ahead in planning and preparing for RYLA 2021!

RYLA 2021 is set for Sunday, July 18 to Friday, July 23 at the beautiful Grinnell College campus. Ben Stutting and Ally O'Meara have graciously agreed to stay on as Head Counselors for RYLA 2021. Ben and Ally are both students at the University of Iowa. They are both absolutely amazing! Wayne Steen of the West Liberty Rotary Club will stay on as Conference chair for RYLA 2021. Dave Kutter of Cedar Rapids will stay on as Conference vice chair and registrar for RYLA 2021.

Registration for high school conferees and Rotarians will soon be available on the Iowa RYLA web site at [iowaryla.org](http://iowaryla.org). Each year approximately 240 High School students from the state of Iowa attend Iowa RYLA.

We are in need of Rotarians to volunteer the week of Iowa

RYLA (July 17-23 for Rotarians). It will be a week that you will always remember! You will be working with a team leader and with some of the best high school students in the state of Iowa!

This is an outstanding opportunity for Rotarians to really make a difference in a young person's life! If you have any questions please email Wayne Steen at [pythagoras78@hotmail.com](mailto:pythagoras78@hotmail.com).

Rotarians will need to attend a day of training on Saturday, June 19 (the day before Father's Day). You will meet the team leader you will be working with and learn all about RYLA. The June 19 training is required.

We will also have training on Saturday, July 17 and then the high school students arrive the next afternoon on Sunday, July 18. Rotarians will receive free room and board at RYLA and the food at Grinnell College is really yummy!

At RYLA, you will learn all about RYLA magic. Yes, RYLA magic is real! It will change you and make you a better Rotarian and citizen of the world. RYLA is my favorite part of being a Rotarian. I love RYLA and the friends I have made at RYLA will last a lifetime. You will also make friends that will last a lifetime at RYLA. If you want to really make a difference, please be a Rotarian volunteer at RYLA 2021!

## MOUNT PLEASANT

# We are small but mighty

By Olabisi Gwamma/Mount Pleasant

Club Secretary

Mount Pleasant Rotary went virtual for five weeks during summer, joining several other clubs online and donating money meant for meetings to local food banks. We stopped meeting via Zoom only toward the end of June, after which we resumed in-person, with reasonable social distancing at the Mount Pleasant Masonic Lodge on Main Street, which so far, has been our new venue.

We started the new Rotary Service year with passing of the gavel when President Don LeBlanc handed over to PDG Calvin Litwiller. Litwiller presented a plaque to LeBlanc in appreciation of his service and challenged members to envision what they wanted the club to be within five years.

During summer, Mount Pleasant Rotary hosted variety of guests including the current DG, Steve Dakin and his wife Lesley, local business and community leaders, and a former Rotary scholar, Unity Stephens. Stephens is a crisis counselor with plans to enter law school in the area of Public Policy. While in college, Stephens participated in the study abroad program sponsored by Rotary International and is the brand-new member of the Mount Pleasant Rotary Club.

In gratitude to the club for beautifying the East Lake park signage, the park granted us free use of the venue for our social outing at the Harvard Pavilion, East Lake Park where we welcomed Unity's family. Part of our community activities included signing birthday cards for residents of Park Place Elder Living. We received nice thank you notes from the elderly men and women who felt quite special for being remembered by total strangers. Towards the end of July, our club sponsored a Blood Drive at the Van Allen Elementary School which drew over 40 donors.

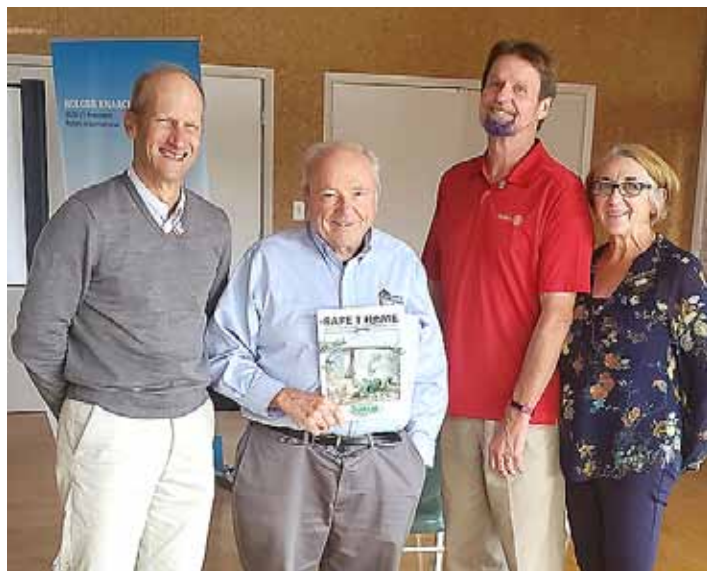
While COVID-19 has curtailed how much we can interact among and within the community, our club has kept to the Four-Way Test which has guided our intention to keep doing good. In this vein, we have remained loyal to the Fellowship cup by donating funds and materials that would help relieve the problem of food insecurity. Not only that, members have also contributed back-to-school materials to the Fellowship Cup, for onward distribution to needy families.

It's been a hot summer of much felicity and goodwill among the close-knit membership at the Mount Pleasant Rotary. This is the year the club turns 100, and the new president is full of celebratory ideas. We are small, but mighty, proud of one of the best attendance record in District 6000.



**President (and PDG) Cal Litwiller welcomes Unity Stephens to Mount Pleasant Rotary.**

Provided by Olabisi Gwamma



## Sukup Safe T Home

**Fairfield Rotarian Ron Bovard (c) proudly purchased a Sukup Safe T Home for a family. This home should last for generations. Ron is pictured with club president John Loin, at left, and DG Steve Dakin and Lesley.**

Provided by Steve Dakin

## AMAZON SMILE

# Raise funds for Rotary

By Sarah Simon/Winterset

Club President

Prior to Covid-19 many of us enjoyed the luxury of online shopping. Skipping the crowds, lines, and drive time was quite appealing. Now, during a pandemic, it's the safest way to shop!

As Rotarians, we are always on the lookout for ways we can give back to and do good in the world. One way you can give back is with your online shopping purchases. If you shop with Amazon, please consider shopping through AmazonSmile. It's a simple no-cost way for us to support our very own District 6000.

Here's how it works. When you shop at AmazonSmile, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added benefit that AmazonSmile will donate 0.5 percent of your eligible purchases to our District. AmazonSmile tracks your personal donations generated as well as the total amount generated for the District.

To get started go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and choose Get Started. Then select Rotary District 6000 Humanitarian and Educational Foundation, Inc. as your charitable organization. Make this change today! Ask your friends, family members, co-workers and employers to do the same. This will benefit all concerned! Stay safe and healthy everyone!

## "COVID" BRIDGE RUN

Registrations will be accepted by mail or online through Oct. 10 for Winterset Rotary's Virtual COVID Bridge Run. Participants sign up, pay the registration fee of \$30, select their distance and choose their starting line. Runners will post their times and will be mailed a finisher's T-shirt. Proceeds support Rotary projects. The event celebrates the 25th anniversary of "The Bridges of Madison County." Register at <http://getmeregistered.com/CoveredBridgeRace>.



## AMES INVITATION

# You or your club can aid milk processing lab

The Rotary Club of Ames has partnered with the Rotary Club of Same, Tanzania, on four highly successful, major water and sanitation projects. The club has something a little different this time working with another club, and invites District 6000 clubs to participate.

We have an opportunity to help an African village by partnering with the Rotary Club of Mwanga, Tanzania, with a humanitarian grant. Shighatini is a village in the Kilimanjaro region of Tanzania with over 400 dairy farmers, mostly women, needing a market for their excess milk.

Currently, milk is produced and consumed by the family with some excess sold to neighbors and the rest discarded. There are no milk processing plants in either the Mwanga or Same districts, however, there is a big demand for the processing plant by both producers and consumers.

The Shighatini milk processing committee, a community committee, has constructed a building complying to government building codes, with water and electrical service to house the milk processing operation. In preparation for the milk processing plant becoming operational, the committee has organized farmer training seminars, led by government and industry experts, on milk production, safe milk handling, livestock husbandry, and dairy cattle health and nutrition.

The need now is for milk processing equipment, milk testing lab equipment, and office equipment. The total budget is \$100,000. We have a good start in financing this project, but welcome your help to complete the funding. Will you help? Contact Glen Rippke, rippkegs@gmail.com, 515-541-5927.

Your contribution will allow you matching Paul Harris Fellow points.



## Our newest Rotaract club

We are so proud to introduce the newest UNIVERSITY-based Rotaract Club in Rotary District 6000! Rotarian Greg Probst is the Rotarian liaison for the Rotaract club in Iowa City, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Iowa City AM. Rotaractor Abby Camp writes: "With the given circumstances, our options are very limited recruiting and meeting wise, but we've managed to get a lot of interest from the RYLA and Rotex crowd here in Iowa City and will be kicking off our first Zoom meeting very soon! We are having talks about different service projects we can do, how we can safely organize with COVID, and a bunch of different topics. Things are falling into place!"

Provided by DGE Alka Khanolkar, District 6000 Rotaract Chair

## Parks group honors Quad Cities clubs for Miracle Field

The Iowa Parks and Recreation Association presented its 2020 Service Club Award to the 11 Rotary clubs of the Iowa and Illinois Quad Cities for fulfilling their commitment to build a Miracle Field where differently abled athletes can play baseball.

The project was spearheaded by the Rotary Club of the Iowa Quad Cities with support from the Iowa clubs of Bettendorf, Davenport and North Scott, and seven clubs in the Illinois QCA. The clubs raised \$100,000 and the field was dedicated in September 2019.

Iowa Parks and Recreation CEO Steve Jordison presented the award to Iowa Quad City Rotarians Nick Wagner and J.D. Walls at a meeting of the Davenport City Council. Since 1989, the Iowa Quad Cities club has been an integral part of Challenger Little League. The league provides opportunities for boys and girls with physical and mental disabilities to compete in baseball in the same way millions of other children participate around the world.

In 2014, a committee was formed to examine the viability of an inclusive field in the Quad Cities. During 2017, the area Rotary clubs made a commitment to raise \$100,000 to help build the field. Rotary held many community events such as a golf outing, Family Fest, Wingfest, Rotary Club Night at the Ballpark along with collection private donations. —provided by Nick Wagner



Iowa Parks and Recreation CEO Steve Jordison presented the Service Club Award to Iowa Quad City Rotarians Nick Wagner (second from left) and J.D. Walls (center) in recognition of their leadership in getting all 11 Rotary clubs in the Quad Cities to support the Miracle Field. Davenport Mayor Mike Matzen is at right. In addition to Iowa Quad Cities, the District 6000 clubs were Bettendorf, Davenport and North Scott. The Iowa Quad Cities club has sponsored Challenger Little League for many years. Rotary surpassed its commitment of \$100,000 and the field was dedicated in September 2019.

## ANKENY

# Pork project fills food pantries

By David Mercer/Ankeny

It would be a huge understatement to say that 2020 has been a year in turmoil for Rotarians. Meetings and seminars online via Zoom, fundraisers cancelled, golf outings permitted under strict parameters, weekly meetings attended with a mask, etc.

No matter how the effect has been on Rotarians, the initial onset of the COVID 19 pandemic in Iowa, and throughout the world, was devastating for low income and needy families that were in need of food. District Governor Erna Morain understood this immediately and asked the clubs to consider donating to the Iowa Food Bank in order to offset the food shortage caused by COVID-19 shutdowns. Rotary clubs in the District 6000 responded accordingly with over 288,000 meals donated.

The Rotary Club of Ankeny heeded the call by donating \$1,675 to the district effort and by donating \$2,200 to three food banks serving the Ankeny community.

However, the Rotary Club of Ankeny took this one step further. Club member Doug Beech had a conversation with his brother in law, Nick Smith of Audubon, who is a partner in Audubon-Manning Vet Clinic (AMVC). AMVC just happens to be the 10th largest pork producer in the country. The COVID-19 situation was making delivery of hogs to market and the processing a logistical nightmare. Too many hogs were going to market and meat packers and local lockers were overwhelmed with demand while they had limited capacity. Something had to give, and if you followed the farm market during that time, you will know that many hogs were euthanized rather than processed into the food chain.

## Pork for the food pantries

With this in mind, Doug Beech suggested to his brother-in-law that they should donate some of the hogs for food pantries in the Ankeny area. When Nick Smith agreed, Doug took the issue to the Ankeny Rotary board and received overwhelming approval. The Rotary Club of Ankeny would be responsible for the processing charges and delivery so hundreds of pounds of fresh pork would be able to be handed out to two local food pantries, Impact Community Action Partnership and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Food Pantry.

Impact Community Action is a group of Community Action Agencies in Central Iowa and are tasked by the Federal Government to help fight poverty and to empower low income individuals and families to achieve self sufficiency. This includes energy, disaster and housing assistance. A food pantry for the Ankeny area is available for delivery or pick up orders.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Ankeny is centrally located and it serves the entire community. The church and its congregation are involved with mission partners such as Impact, but also the Ankeny Service Center, Hope Ministries, Love Lunch, and their own Holy Trinity Food Pantry which

serves northern Polk County. Their pantry offers stop-in, or drive-through service to individuals and families in need.

As a goodwill gesture to the cause, Henningsen Locker in Atlantic, Iowa, agreed to process the hogs at a discounted rate by donating \$100 against the processing fee. Henningsen Locker turned each carcass into a variety of delicious cuts for home use including roasts, chops and ground pork. Each package was individually wrapped in a size appropriate for a family meaning roasts were portioned to approximately two pounds while chops and ground pork was packed as one-pound servings. Each package carried the Ankeny Rotary name on it.



Ankeny Rotarians Doug Beech (l) and David Mercer (r) deliver pork products to the Impact Community Action Group, represented by Hanna Nelson (c).

## Eight hundred fifty-four pounds of pork

Overall, eight hundred fifty four pounds were processed and donated. Ankeny Rotarians then made two trips to Atlantic to pick up and deliver the meat.

Locally, Ankeny Cold Storage donated their time and effort as well as the freezer space needed to keep the pork until the pantries were able to pick the meat up.

The project was a huge success.

Hannah Nelson, Impact Community Engagement Coordinator, had this to say about the donation: "The pork that was donated stocked the refrigerators at the IMPACT Ankeny Resource Center with a total 430 pounds of pork.

This pork was included in food pantry packages that were delivered to around 200 families' doorsteps in Polk County through our new no-contact pantry delivery service. During a time when the nation was experiencing a meat shortage, this helped us to ensure families in need in Polk County were not affected and we still able to put healthy, substantive food on their tables. "

The ability of the Ankeny Rotary Club to leverage their contacts was of the utmost importance as the entire endeavor was coordinated from hog delivery to meat delivery. The ability to use Ankeny Cold Storage was also highlighted by Pastor Pam Schroeder at Holy Trinity Lutheran.

"The pork was such a wonderful gift for our food pantry guests. Whenever fresh meat is available it is such a bonus! Your generosity in allowing us to store the meat at Ankeny Cold Storage was also such a wonderful gesture. Our freezer would not hold this amount of meat. We could pick up the amount of meat we needed and received gracious accommodating service. As people live through these extraordinary times, the care and compassion of Rotary is a bright spot that reinforces your group's care and compassion for the hungry and food insecure. People who stop for food at the pantry are grateful for all that is given and for those who donate. You are a blessing to the Ankeny community! Thank you!"

Although praise such as this is welcome to a service club, it's unnecessary as the Ankeny Rotary Club strives to put "Service Above Self" into every day action.



**NORTH SCOTT**

# Interactors form special bond with Ugandan students

**By Jan Touney/North Scott**

Club Interact Adviser

There's a special bond that exists between a group of students at North Scott Junior High School and children at the Imbabazi Centre for Women and Children in Kisoro, Uganda.

The latest manifestation of that are the white shirts with the Imbabazi logo that the North Scott students – members of the Interact Club – purchased for their Ugandan friends through fundraisers this past school year.

The Interact Club is sponsored by the Rotary Club of North Scott. During the school year, students meet weekly to plan service projects and develop leadership skills. Adult advisers are Jan Touney, North Scott Rotarian, and Eugene Kreiter, NSJH faculty member. Helping to teach leadership and teamwork skills is Ann Green, 4-H youth program specialist with Iowa State University Extension & Outreach.

The North Scott students have done fundraisers for several years for projects to benefit the Imbabazi Centre, formerly known as God's Mercy Orphanage Centre. During the 2018-19 school year, funds were raised to provide a television for the Ugandan school so the children could view educational programs. Most of the students there had never seen a television.

Robbinah Hakizaryan, director of the Imbabazi Center, said the children were so happy to get the shirts.

"They are so grateful for their American friends who bought the T-shirts for them," she wrote in an email. "They (Interact students) are such good kids with huge hearts. How I wish I

could hug each one of them and tell them how they make a difference in the lives of poor Ugandan kids."

North Scott's connection with Uganda began when retired River Valley Coop co-manager, Rotarian Merle Anderson, met Robbinah in 2013 when he was helping farmers in the central African country with agricultural production and marketing.

The Interact Club also completed several other service projects during the past school year, including putting together treat bags and playing bingo with residents at Grand Haven Retirement Community, reading to preschoolers at the Scott County Library in Eldridge, and making a donation to the North Scott Food Pantry.



**Children at the Imbabazi Centre for Women and Children in Kisoro, Uganda, proudly wear white shirts with the Imbabazi logo which were provided by students in the North Scott Junior High Interact Club. Members of North Scott and area Rotary clubs are sponsors of the students.**

**IOWA M.O.S.T.**

# Mobile Health Clinic launched in Guatemala

**By Deb Dunkhase/Iowa City AM**

Iowa MOST Team Leader

Though the pandemic prevents our District 6000 Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team (MOST) from returning to Guatemala in 2021 to perform free cleft and cataract surgeries; as always Rotary finds a way to do good in the world.

Iowa MOST is partnering with the Rotary Club of Huehuetenango, to create a Mobile Health Clinic that will travel through the remote Western Highlands to provide nutrition, medical services, and social service support to the most vulnerable children of Guatemala. COVID has hit our Central American friends severely, causing increased poverty and malnutrition to a population that was already living on minimal resources.

This mobile clinic will be staffed 100 percent by Rotarian volunteers from Huehue providing followup to patients from last year to make sure they're staying healthy amid the pandemic. Until Iowa MOST can return in person, our role as partners in this new Rotary project is financial support. You can join us by donating to Iowa MOST Helps! at our new website at: [IowaMost.org](http://IowaMost.org). *Muchas Gracias!*

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(Advertising)

# NEWS NOTES

## DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2021 - ADD TAPEI

District Governor-Elect **Steve Dakin** is planning a non-traditional District Conference with the theme of "Story Telling," to be hosted in three-hour sessions at six locations over two weekends. Watch for details.

**Burlington:** Friday evening, April 16;

**Quad Cities:** Saturday noon, April 17;

**Iowa City:** Saturday evening, April 17;

**Atlantic:** Friday evening, April 23;

**Boone:** Saturday noon, April 24;

**Des Moines:** Saturday evening, April 24.

## WORLD POLIO DAY

Oct. 24 is designated as World Polio Day, during which clubs are encouraged to raise awareness of Rotary's 33-year-long quest to eradicate polio. This year, the World Health Organization's African region was certified free of wild poliovirus – showing that eradication is possible even in very difficult circumstances. Wild poliovirus still paralyzes children in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and as long as polio exists anywhere, it remains a threat everywhere. With the challenges to vaccination programs posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, it's even more crucial that Rotary continues to build awareness and raise funds for polio eradication. A toolkit to help clubs tell the story can be found at the Rotary website or through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/y6szsx9n>. Clubs should register their World Polio Day activities at: <https://tinyurl.com/y6yjfje6>.

## DISTRICT NOMINATIONS

District 6000 invites clubs to nominate a past president by Oct. 12 for District Governor for 2023-2024. Candidate interviews are scheduled for Nov. 1, 2020. Candidates must be available on the scheduled date. Information about the application process was emailed to club presidents on Nov. 19. Information: District Administrator Carolyn Scharff, [dis6000admini@Lisco.com](mailto:dis6000admini@Lisco.com), 877-976-8279, or Nomination Committee chair John Ockenfels, [johnockenfels@hotmail.com](mailto:johnockenfels@hotmail.com), 319-321-460.

## ZONE NOMINATIONS

Pat Merryweather of the Rotary Club of Naperville, Ill., is the selection of the Zone 29 Nominating Committee for Rotary International Director 2023-25. She is a healthcare professional who served District 6450 as District Governor in 2012-13. PDG John Ockenfels was the District 6000 delegate to the Zone Nominating Committee. The new paired Zones 29 and 25 stretch from Ontario, Canada, to Mexico and Central America.

## TREASURER, ACCOUNTANT

Thanks to **Jon Augustus** (Nevada) and **Emmi Miller** (Nevada) for their dedicated service to this District 6000 as Accountant and Treasurer. For 2020-21 our new District Accountant will be **Jean Sheets** (Ames Morning) and our District Treasurer will be **Tim Trudeau** (Boone).

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

Linda Dasher tells Rotarians that the memorial celebration for PDG John Dasher (1992-93), who died Sept. 27, 2019, has been changed to 4:00 p.m. May 14, 2021, at the Alumni Center at Iowa State University, Ames. The memorial was initially planned for spring 2020 but has been changed due to COVID.



## District 6000 Rotary Festival

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds extended greetings to 270 District 6000 Rotarians who joined the Virtual Rotary Festival and gavel passing June 26. She thanked Rotarians for raising more than \$70,000 for food insecurity. Speakers in the 52-minute program included Michelle Book (Food Bank of Iowa), Des Moines AM club president Jennifer Chittenden, and Rotary Foundation Trustee (and now President-Nominee) Jennifer Jones. The event included a Virtual Gavel Passing of club presidents and passing of the governor's pin from DG Erna Morain to Steve Dakin.

Screen Shot by Bill Tubbs



## 100 Most Influential

Rotary's campaign to eradicate polio received a public image boost when Dr. Tunji Funsho, chair of Rotary's Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee, was named one of TIME's 100 Most Influential People in the world for his work to eradicate wild polio in Africa. This year's TIME100 honorees were announced on an ABC television broadcast. In 2010, Tunji (pictured) spent an evening at the home of PDG Bill and Linda Tubbs in Eldridge en route to the Rotary Institute in Minneapolis. Bill had been at Tunji's home in Kano, Nigeria, during Polio National Immunization Days in 2007.

Photo by Bill Tubbs



# NEWS NOTES



**Jennifer Jones**

Rotary International President-Nominee

## Jennifer Jones is RI President-Nominee

**By Ryan Hyland**

Rotary International News

Jennifer E. Jones, a member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada, has been nominated to become Rotary International's president for 2022-23, a groundbreaking selection that will make her the first woman to hold that office in the organization's 115-year history.

Jones says she sees Rotary's Action Plan as a catalyst for increasing Rotary's impact.

Jones is founder and president of Media Street Productions Inc., an award-winning media company in Windsor. She was chair of the board of governors of the University of Windsor and chair of the Windsor-Essex Regional Chamber of Commerce. She has been recognized for her service with the YMCA Peace Medallion, the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal, and Wayne State University's Peacemaker of the Year Award, a first for a Canadian. Jones holds a Doctor of Laws (LL.D.).

A current Rotary Foundation trustee, Jones has been a Rotary member since 1997 and has served Rotary as RI vice president, director, training leader, committee chair, moderator, and district governor. She is the co-chair of the End Polio Now Countdown to History Campaign Committee, which aims to raise \$150 million for polio eradication efforts.



Now is the time to pre-register for the June 2021 Rotary International Convention in Taipei, Taiwan. Connect with Rotarians and find new opportunities to serve. Registration information: <https://convention.rotary.org/en/taipei>.



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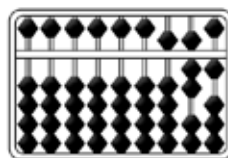


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Rotary's goal is a polio-free world! There were 33 cases of polio in all of 2018, and 173 in 2019. Already there are 73 in Pakistan in 2020 as of Sept. 25, and 47 in Afghanistan.

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## Rotary Opportunities!

**PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT** for the **Sukup Safe T Homes**, and the **District Disaster Fund** for derecho relief (p. 3).

**ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS** to register for the Virtual Oct. 22 **One Rotary Summit**, the Virtual Nov. 7 **Rotary Foundation Luncheon**, and future presidents for **NCPETS** (p. 6)

**NOMINATE** a worthy member for the **Paul E. Hellwege Guardian of Integrity Award** (p. 8).

**MAKE PLANS** to observe **World Polio Day** on Oct. 24 (p. 30).

**ASK MEMBERS** to give generously to support the programs of **The Rotary Foundation** and **PolioPlus** (p. 14-15).

**EXPLORE** the possibility of a **Satellite Club** to grow membership and service in your community (p. 21).

**TAKE A STAND** against **Human Trafficking** by adopting the **Anti-Trafficking Resolution** (p. 24).

**OBSERVE** the **FIFTH FOUR-WAY TEST**: *Have Fun!*

**SUBMIT NEWS** of your activities by Jan. 22, 2021, for the next issue of District 6000 News to PDG Bill Tubbs at [btubbs@northscottpress.com](mailto:btubbs@northscottpress.com). Send text or a Word file or in the body of the email; and free-standing, high resolution .jpg images.

## The Object of Rotary

The **Object of Rotary** is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

**FIRST:** The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

**SECOND:** High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

**THIRD:** The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

**FOURTH:** The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the

## The Four-Way Test (of the things we Think, Say or Do)

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?



Rotary Opens Opportunities

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