

Rotary District 6000
Iowa USA
Steve Wieneke, Governor



First Issue
2022-23
(July-December)

District 6000 News

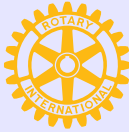


**GLOBAL NETWORK: ROTARIANS
STRENGTHEN TIES WITH UKRAINIANS**

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

A Global Network of Community Volunteers
One Rotary Center
1560 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201
Phone: (847) 866-3000
Fax: (847) 328-8554

Rotary



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Jennifer Jones, Windsor, Ontario, Canada

DISTRICT 6000 • Iowa USA

www.rotary6000.org

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Steve Wieneke
1709 NE Lowell Court
Ankeny, IA 50021
(515) 250-0507
swieneked6k@gmail.com

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Carolyn Scharff
P.O. Box 122, Pella, IA 50219
(877) 976-8279
dis6000admin@lisco.com

ASSISTANT GOVERNORS

PDG Mike Ruby, Muscatine (team leader)
Juan Arias (23-24) Ankeny
Jeff Ashcraft (24-25), North Scott
Chris Bertelson (22-23) Winterset
Jennifer Chittenden (23-24) Des Moines AM
Travis Dvorak (23-24) Jefferson
Ann Frost (24-25), Pella
Teresa Horton-Bumgarner (22-23) Tipton
Bob Main (24-25), Newton
Gretchen Nollman (22-23) West Liberty
Matt Olson (24-25), Waukee
James Patton (22-23) Ames
Mark Ruggeberg (24-25), Iowa City Downtown
Park Woodle (22-23), Ames

'DISTRICT 6000 NEWS' EDITOR

Editor: PDG 2004-05 Bill Tubbs
P.O. Box 223, Eldridge, IA 52748
Ph. (563) 579-7402; btubbs@northscottpress.com
Assistant Editor: PDG 2013-14 Jacque Andrew
Ph. (515) 370-8358; jeandrew@netins.net

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EDITOR

'Connecting for Good'

Dear Rotarians and Friends of Rotary,

Money is needed for much of the good Rotarians do in the world, but sometimes our good work doesn't cost a dime. Such is the case of Medic EMS ambulance No. 14, in service to the people of Eldridge and Scott County in October, and now providing relief in war-torn Ukraine.

Our story began when our **RI Director, Pat Merrywether-Arges**, of Naperville, Ill., invited **Chris Manson**, a hospital exec and former U.S. Marine from Peoria, Ill., to speak at the Rotary Institute in Minneapolis, Sept. 14. His story of procuring emergency vehicles for **Ukraine** – at the urging of his 7-year-old daughter, Lily – was inspiring.



Bill Tubbs

We invited Chris to speak at our club, North Scott, in October, and the rest is history. Also in attendance that day was **Linda Fredericksen**, CEO of Medic EMS. Linda persuaded her board to decommission ambulance No. 14 – old by U.S. standards, but with serviceable life – for service in Ukraine.

On Nov. 11, Linda brought the ambulance to our meeting where members had their picture taken with it. It would be filled with equipment and painted camou upon arrival. On Dec. 20, she sent a text with the photo, below:

"Loading up a Genesis Ambulance in Chicago on 12/12 and reached the port at Baltimore today – will ship out on 12/27."

This occurred the day before Ukrainian president **Volodymyr Zelenskyy** spoke to a joint session of the U.S. Congress. Rotary's aid was thus part of history in the making!

For Manson, the Medic ambulance is one of 25 he has procured and delivered to Ukraine from seven states. Three are from **Muscatine** and one is from **Cedar Rapids**.

No story better illustrates Rotary's **connectedness** and **credibility**, or that every project does not carry a large price tag. **"Join Leaders, Exchange Ideas, Take Action"** is our slogan. We are **"A Global Network of Community Volunteers"** who **"Connect for Good."**

Rotarians' desire to provide humanitarian aid for the people of Ukraine was heard loudly and clearly at the RI Convention in Houston. Read about this, and other Rotarian aid for Ukraine in this issue of *District 6000 News*.

Imagine the possibilities!

Bill Tubbs, District Governor 2004-05
Volunteer Editor, District 6000 News



Medic EMS ambulance No. 14, in service in Eldridge in September, is headed to Ukraine.

Photo by Linda Fredericksen

DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Imagine Rotary: What is your call to action?

Dear Rotarians and Friends of District 6000,

One of the highlights that Brenda and I have cherished so far this year has been to visit over 70 Rotary and Satellite clubs throughout our district. We look forward to visiting many more satellite clubs in the coming months as their momentum increases. Attending and participating in club **community service projects, anniversary milestone celebrations, and fundraising gala events** have also created great memories for us. It has been a true honor and privilege to have been involved in these special events.

**Steve Wieneke**

Brenda and I are so thankful and blessed to have had the opportunity to get to meet so many inspirational members and leaders. It has truly been a gift and honor to serve you as your Rotary District Governor and First Lady this year.

Expand our reach

A few of my most important initiatives this year include expanding our reach to be more inviting and to **increase membership growth and development, enhance member engagement, increase our impact, increase our ability to adapt, partner with community organizations to improve children's literacy and reduce food insecurity.**

Jennifer Jones and I encourage Rotarians to be welcoming, take interest in their fellow members and guests, and show them the comfort and care they deserve.

Like many Past District Governors, I have been challenged by this year's **RI President Jennifer Jones** to grow our membership. As many of you recall, last year's **RI President Shekar Mehta's** goal was to increase membership by asking each Rotarian to bring in one new Rotarian. My call to action to increase membership this year has been, **"GET YOUR ASK ON."** Have you done your part to increase members in your club this year?

Intentional and frequent **member engagement** through effectively communicating with members, inviting members to get involved in club activities, and making sure they feel heard and appreciated are important to their feeling valued as a member.



District Governor 2022-23 Steve Wieneke, and his wife Brenda, of Ankeny, at left, with District Governor Alka Khanolkar and her husband, Kiran, at the change event June 25 in Ankeny.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

Jennifer Jones and I encourage Rotarians to **be welcoming, take interest in their fellow members and guests, and show them the comfort and care they deserve.** We need to take the time to get to know our members and their families and what they are passionate about doing in Rotary, as well as improving their community. We need to engage our members, so they **LOVE** their clubs and their Rotary experience.

Create a positive image

Creating a positive image for Rotary is the responsibility of every Rotarian. As RI President Jennifer Jones has stated, one of her primary goals is to **showcase Rotary to the world.** When Rotarians share their personal stories, like-minded people are attracted to join us. **Give the gift of Rotary membership** to someone you know. You will be amazed at how this can change their lives.

During this year you have heard me emphasize the importance of individual Rotary member growth and development, preparing future leaders, and enhancing their knowledge of the Rotary organization. Members have been and will continue to be encouraged to attend district-sponsored

GOVERNOR, continued on page 40

Inside District 6000 News ...

Editor	2
District Governor	3
District Conference	4
District Training Meetings	5
Community Grants	6-7
Global Scholar	7
One Rotary Summits	7
Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team	8
Xicoteppec	9
RYLA	10
Youth Exchange	11

Interact	11
Rotary Foundation Impact	12
New Global Grants Chair	12
Rotary Foundation, PolioPlus Giving	13
Adel's Aid for Ukraine	14
George Washington Carver Tribute	15
PDG Honored for Trafficking Prevention	15
Rotary Foundation Dinners	16-17
RAG4Clubfoot	18-19
Guardian of Integrity	29
Houston: Support for Ukraine	20-21
Flight To End Polio!	22
Satellite Clubs	23
Hinke Nominated for District Governor	23
Greater Des Moines	24
DEI Seminar Slated	24

Rotary Night at Ballpark	25
RI Director at Bettendorf	25
Ames Global Grant, Tanzania	26
Jefferson's Second Century	27
Marshalltown	28
Fellowships	29
Rotary Logo Wins Award!	30
North Scott	31
West Des Moines, Tipton	32
Fairfield, Indianola, Winterset	33
Atlantic	34
Rotary Leadership Institute	35
Burlington, Des Moines, Muscatine	36
Bloomfield, Mount Pleasant	37
Zone Institute	38
Obituaries	39

IMAGINE

Three options for District Conference

By District Governor Steve Wieneke/Ankeny

Rotarians and guests are encouraged to attend one or all three regional conferences:

Saturday, April 15: In **Carroll** at the Carrollton Inn, 4-8 p.m.

Saturday, April 22: In **Coralville** at the Radisson Hotel, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 29: In **West Des Moines** at the Hilton Garden Inn, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Why should you attend a conference?

There will be **something of interest** for everyone who attends.

We will **recognize** member and club successes.

We will **showcase** photo images of members and clubs in action completing service projects.

You will create **new friendships** and strengthen existing relationships.

You will **learn something new** and share it with your club.

You will **hear inspirational speakers:** We have dynamic speakers confirmed to be our keynote speakers at the Coralville conference, RI Director **Pat Merryweather-Arges** on April 22, 2023; and **Jay Byers**, Chair of the Greater Des Moines Partnership will be the keynote speaker at the West Des Moines conference.

Service projects

We will provide **opportunities** for members to be involved in participating in community service projects prior to the scheduled social, dinner, and programs. Each regional location planning committee is asking members and clubs to plan and conduct some form of protecting our environment service project in the morning, ideally between 8:30-11:30 a.m. After the service project, Rotarians and guests will be invited to attend a fun noon luncheon and fellowship event in a city park.

Rotarians and youth involved in **youth programs** will be provided an opportunity to explore and learn about the impact these programs can make on our future leaders of tomorrow. These opportunities will be offered in Coralville and West Des Moines, most likely between midmorning-midafternoon.

Discover and learn about **opportunities** available to members and clubs in the **House of Friendship**.

Enjoy delicious **food, beverages, and fellowship**.

The Regional Conference in **Carroll** will be from 4-8 p.m. The Regional Conferences in **Coralville** and **West Des Moines** will be from 5:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. Members have told us that they want to attend a much shorter conference which saves them time and money and is closer to their home. We are delivering on what members are telling us.

We will share **fun and interesting projects** and events Rotarians have done recently and celebrate these accomplishments.

Bring a book

Rotarians and guests are asked to bring a new or gently used book for young children to be donated to organizations of great need near the communities of each conference.

This is part of one of this year's DG initiatives to improve literacy among our children.

We have amazingly talented **musicians** to perform during socials at the Coralville conference (John Schultz and his four-piece strings quartet); and musicians to be determined in West Des Moines. National Anthem soloists will be **Tejas Gurujas** in Coralville and **"Off the Grid,"** an a capela group from Ankeny Centennial High School at the West Des Moines event.

Spotlight one club in District 6000 **community service project**.

Spotlight one club or joint club **Global Grant project**.

Recognize club-nominated **"Guardians of Integrity."**

Listen to an inspiring pre-recorded message from RI President **Jennifer Jones**.

Listen to inspiring pre-recorded message from Global Scholar, **Jessica Crawford**.

Presentation of **District and RI awards** to members and clubs.

Polio eradication update by **PDG Susan Herrick**.

Rotarian Reflection moments.

Celebrating youth programs: **RYLA Interact**, and **Youth Exchange**.

In Memoriam honoring

Rotarians in the district that have passed away in the last year.

Amazing **door prizes** to be given away at each conference; five in total at each. Rotarians must register and pay their registration fee to attend, and they must be present to win. You don't want to miss out on winning fabulous gifts!

Lend your support

Rotarians and Clubs are encouraged to donate and bid on amazing **Silent Auction** and **Dessert Auctions**.

We will offer a club and member **incentive** to encourage member and guest participation to attend one or all of our regional conferences.

One lucky winner in the district will be given a \$200, "Night on the Town" prize. One Rotarian who attends a conference will be drawn from club that has the highest percentage of members attending all conferences.

To register, click on the appropriate link on the District 6000 website to attend the conference of your choice.

Carroll: <https://rotary6000.org/event/regional-district-conference---carroll/>

Coralville: <https://rotary6000.org/event/regional-district-conference---coralville/>

West Des Moines: <https://rotary6000.org/event/regional-district-conference---west-des-moines/>



District meetings for education, fellowship

District 6000 is convening these meetings for club leaders. Make plans now to join leaders of other clubs for education and fellowship.

Grant Management Seminars

Who: Any Rotarian from a club interested in the grant process. Attendance is required for participation in Rotary Foundation Community Grants and Global Grants programs.

What: Grants Management Seminar. Attendance required for clubs participating in Rotary Foundation Grants. Seminars will be offered on two dates at two locations. Attendance at one of the two is required.

When/Where: Saturday, Feb. 18, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Shive-Hattery, Inc., 4125 Westown Parkway, West Des Moines.

When/Where: Saturday, Feb. 25, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Community Center, 1204 N. Calhoun Street, West Liberty.

How much? Free.

Register: rotary6000.org.

Assistant Governor Training

Who: Assistant District Governors continuing their term and those who will begin their term next year.

What: Team building seminar.

When: Friday, March 3, 9:00-noon.

Where: DMACC Newton Campus, 602 N. 2nd Avenue W., Newton.

How much? Free.

Why: The role of District 6000 Assistant Governor is a vital supportive position to the District Governor and a liaison between the club and the Governor. At this educational opportunity you will get to know DGE **Dennis Drager** and learn about his goals for the coming year. You will share best practices with each other and meet the Presidents-Elect for your clubs. At this event, you will also have your picture taken for the next District Leadership Directory. Please contact the District Office to confirm your attendance. The training for Assistant Governors will begin on March 3, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. at DMACC in Newton. Following lunch, AGs will join PEs and PNs in conducting training from 1-6 p.m. Training will end with the Annual Meeting and vote at District Assembly on March 4, 2023. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Best Western Holiday Manor, 208 W. 4th St. N., Newton, 800-528-1234. Call by Feb. 24, ask for the Rotary D6000 rate of \$65 plus tax.

Register: rotary6000.org

– DGE Dennis Drager

President-Elect Orientation

Who: Incoming presidents, presidents-nominee and chairs of club extensions.

What: President-Elect Orientation

When: Friday, March 3, 1:00–6:00 p.m.

Where: DMACC Newton Campus, 602 N. 2nd Avenue W., Newton.

How much? Free.

Why: The Rotary club president has many responsibilities. At the President-Elect Orientation you will have the opportunity to get to know the district leadership, including District Governor-Elect Dennis Drager and your Assistant Governor. You will learn about key aspects of Rotary, including The Rotary Foundation, Youth Services and Membership Engagement. You will have the opportunity

to learn about the district and international goals and priorities for your year as president. There will also be a panel discussion of past club presidents to answer your questions and share their best practices. The training will end with the Annual Meeting and vote at District Assembly on March 4. Presidents-Elect will be asked to approve the budget of \$156,895 for 2023-24 with dues remaining at \$35 per member, based on membership of 3,197. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Best Western Holiday Manor, 208 W. 4th St. N., Newton, 800-528-1234. Call by Feb. 24, ask for the Rotary D6000 rate of \$65 plus tax.

Register: rotary6000.org.

– DGE Dennis Drager

District Assembly and Annual Meeting

Who: Incoming presidents, club officers, board members and other interested Rotarians and club leaders!

What: District Assembly and Annual Meeting.

When: Saturday, March 4, 12:30–4:00 p.m.

Where: DMACC Newton Campus, 602 N. 2nd Avenue W., Newton.

How much? Free.

Why: To develop a healthier Rotary club, network and make friends. PEs will cast their club votes at the District Annual meeting. If the PE can't attend, submit the vote proxy. What does it cost? It's FREE. You will be able to register to participate in person or virtually. Questions? Contact Carolyn at dis6000admin@Lisco.com.

This year's District Education Assembly will feature two outstanding speakers:

Jeff Johnston of Living Undeterred will present an exceptional program, "Better, not Bitter." He has a powerful story to share and is working to raise awareness for mental health and substance abuse, to end the stigma surrounding these issues and begin to build new ideas for how we can end these epidemics.

Joe Stevens, CEO and co-founder of Joppa will bring insight into the world of homelessness. Ending homelessness begins with awareness and discussion. Joe will share information about the root causes of homelessness, which helps build understanding and overcome perceptions and stigmas associated with homelessness.

This program promises to be very engaging, informative and relevant to issues that most people are touched by in one way or another.

Register: rotary6000.org.

– DGE Dennis Drager

NCPETS Virtual

Who: Incoming club presidents. Presidents-nominee are also invited. NCPETS includes Districts 5580, 5950, 5960, 5970 and 6000 – Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota – and will be ONLINE.

What: North Central President-Elect Training (NCPETS)

When: Wednesday, March 22, 5-7 p.m.; Thursday, March 23, 5-7 p.m.; and Friday, March 24, 5-7 p.m.

How much? \$150.



DGE Dennis Drager

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Twenty-seven District 6000 clubs receive District Rotary Foundation grants for community projects

By Gretchen Nollman/West Liberty
and Todd Wheeler/Des Moines

Co-Chairs, District Community Grants

Twenty-seven Rotary clubs applied for 27 District 6000 Community Grants. All 27 grants were approved with seven grants adjusted, as requests exceeded available funds.

The 27 grant requests were scored individually by each committee member with the aggregate scores assimilated and discussed in-depth prior to the final decisions. The seven grants not receiving the total amount requested scored lower total points based on the tier score schedule:

Benefit to others, up to 30 points; subdivided up to 20 points based on Community Benefit; and 10 points based on underserved/disadvantaged;

Rotary's Public Image, up to 20 points;

Club Engagement, up to 20 points;

Club Support of Annual TRF (Foundation), up to 30 points.

The seven clubs with the grant requests adjusted scored lower with Foundation support. This is a critical category as the District cannot award funds unless clubs and Rotarians contribute to support the fund.

The 2022-2023 District 6000 Community Grants:

Adel: Rotary Plaza: Enlarge and improve the Adel rest area of the Raccoon Valley Recreation Trail with additional benches, picnic tables, bicycle tire repair station, drinking water fountain and other amenities. This is the RC of Adel's Centennial Project. **\$5,000.**

Ames AM: Fair: Provide age-appropriate books for young children and adult reading support and coaching in collaboration with Raising Readers in Story County, a not-for-profit, in Green Hills Community, a retirement community. **\$4,520.**

Ankeny: 50 Trees for 50 Years: Purchase and plant 50 trees along the High Trestle Trail recreation trail and at Ankeny Market Pavilion. The project is to celebrate the club's 50th Anniversary. **\$5,000.**

Boone: 100 Book Challenge Preschool Project: Provide 100 different preschool-age-appropriate books to each preschool teacher in Boone County. As planned, teachers will send a different book home with each child each night of the school year to expose the children to a diverse collection of old and new and a variety of vocabulary and situations. **\$1,000.**

Clinton: Camanche Train Dept. Rehab Train Safety Program: Rehabilitate the Camanche Train Depot Museum. The club and its contractor will rebuild the chimney, repair plaster, reglaze windows, repaint the interior, replace the electric panel and furnace of the depot building and repair, repaint and replace windows of an adjacent railcar. After work has been completed, Canadian Pacific and Union Pacific railroads will provide public safety presentations. **\$3,750.**

Dallas Center: Enhancing Recreational Options for Middle School Youth: Purchase and help install middle school-age (9-14) appropriate recreation facilities in three city parks and the community middle school. **\$5,000.**

Decatur County: Improvements for SCIT Theater Rehabilitate the Leon SCIT Theatre, a community non-profit movie

and live performance theater. Funding will provide for refinishing the auditorium and stage floors, repainting the auditorium, cleaning the theater seats and replacing the exterior doors. **\$5,000.**

Des Moines AM: Drake Neighborhood Beautification: Collaborate with the Drake Neighborhood Association to enhance Triangle Pocket Park with a marquee and landscaping. **\$3,750.**

Grinnell: Outdoor Learning Environment Classrooms: Collaborate with Ahrens Park Foundation to construct an outdoor learning environment consisting of an amphitheater, arbor space and flowing water. The facility will be a classroom for students and adults to learn about nature and the environment. **\$5,000.**

Indianola: Rotary Centennial Disc Golf Course: Construct an 18-hole disc golf course in City of Indianola's McCord Park. The project includes professional course layout, clearing brush, pouring concrete tee pads, installing targets, spreading mulch and erecting benches. This is the club's Centennial Project. **\$5,000.**

Iowa City AM: Family Sanctuary Iowa City Children's Museum: Renovate the Family Sanctuary Room at the Iowa Children's Museum. (The sanctuary room is a quiet space for children and families away from the noise and movement in the museum.) The renovation includes repainting, installing new lighting, purchasing new furniture and sensory toys to calm young visitors. **\$2,500.**

Iowa City Noon: Iowa City Tree Restoration Project: Purchase and plant 200 trees in public spaces throughout Iowa City. The new trees will replace trees lost in the 2020 derecho. **\$5,000.**

Iowa City Downtown: Solar Panels on the Free Medical Clinic of Iowa City: To help reduce the cost of electricity to be able to provide more free medical services within the community. **\$5,000.**

Keosauqua: Literacy and Math Centers: Purchase literacy and math educational resources for the two Keosauqua Community elementary schools to supplement the standard curriculums. The resources to be purchased have been recommended by the school district and are intended to help close the achievement gap created by the Covid closing. **\$1,500.**

Knoxville: AED for Hospital: Purchase 5 Automated External Defibrillators for Knoxville Hospital & Clinics, a not-for-profit community hospital. **\$3,188.**

Nevada: Food at First Kitchen Equipment: Purchase a food processor, cooking pans, storage shelving and food carts to help meet increased needs of the Food at First homeless meals program. Food at First is a long-established program that has more recently grown from providing about 70 meals each week to about 400. **\$2,600.**

North Scott: Empowering Self Defense for Youth in our Community: Partner with Spread Your Wings organization to take the S.A.V.E. (Self-defense Against Violence and Exploitation) Kids program to 375 students aged 9-14 and their teachers in North Scott Community School District. **\$5,000.**

Osceola: Bike Repair Station: Install four bike repair stations along the Osceola community recreation trail system. **\$250.**

Oskaloosa: Summer Camp Lake Keomah Revitalization: Reha-

GRANTS, continued on next page

Community Grants

GRANTS, *continued*

bilitate the Lake Keomah Park day camp building with new wiring, fans, lights, exit signs, emergency lighting, water station and improved restrooms. **\$3,389**

Ottumwa: Tennis Court Improvement Project: Collaborate with the City of Ottumwa Parks Department, Ottumwa School District and others to construct 12 new tennis courts in Greater Ottumwa Park including a parking lot, lighting, fencing and ADA accessible concession stand and restroom. **\$5,000.**

Pella: Rotary Park Basketball Concrete Slab Replacement: Reconstruct the basketball court and pickleball court in Rotary Park, replacing all concrete playing surfaces and repainting court markings. **\$3,500.**

Tipton: Tiger House Commercial Refrigerator Project: Provide a commercial refrigerator for the student-run Tiger Cafe at Tipton High School. **\$4,287;** and United Church of Christ Food Pantry Freezer: Provide a high-capacity upright freezer for storage of perishables for the community food pantry at Tipton United Church of Christ. **\$553**

Wauke: Butterfly Garden: Develop a butterfly garden in a City of Wauke park alongside Heart of the Warrior Recreation Trail. **\$5,000.**

Wellman: Wellman Scofield Library Improvement Project: Improve the Wellman-Schofield Public Library by adding book shelves in the children's section, replacing broken chairs, replacing an outdated globe, providing seating mats for story time, providing an outdoor bench and purchasing graphic novels for teen readers. **\$788.**

West Liberty: Project Bicycle Ready: Purchase, assemble and install bicycle racks and permanent bike repair stations at five locations within City of West Liberty parks and provide bicycle locks for 100 children. **\$5,000.**

Winterset: Made in the Shade Citywide Tree Planting Canopy Restoration: Purchase and plant 80 trees in public rights-of-way along city streets to replace trees lost to tornado, derecho and emerald ash borer. **\$5,000.**

2022-2023 Total Community Grants: \$101,575.

EDUCATION

108 participated in virtual 'One Summit'

The District Education Team's virtual **One Summit** was attended by 108 Rotarians and guests via Zoom on Sept. 29, reports team chair, West Liberty Rotarian Gretchen Nollman.

"It was a great team effort from the Education Action Team planning and assisting with to make this event successful. We had 108 attendees, online or a Watch Party. Sixty-two completed the evaluation, which is 57 percent, the best response ever!"

Topics included: Welcome and opening remarks from Nollman and DG Steve Wieneke; video message from RI President **Jennifer Jones**; Panel discussion led by **Nollman**, with DGN **Dave Cook** (Boone), membership; **Shawn Mullen** (Des Moines), public image; and **Norlan Hinke** (Clinton), Rotary Foundation; "Imagine a Food Secure Community," led by **Nollman**; breakout, sharing and moving to action by **Nollman** and **DG Wieneke**.



Jessica Crawford

Meet our Global Scholar: Jessica Crawford

By PDG Jim Patton/Ames

District 6000 Scholarship Committee Chair

Jessica Crawford has been selected to be the 2022-2023 Rotary 6000 Global Scholar. She will be using the scholarship beginning in September 2022 and complete her program in September 2023.

Jessica Crawford is a 2010 graduate of Iowa State University in Child and Family Services. Since she entered ISU, Jessica has focused on living a life of service.

Since graduation, she has worked in **Africa** with two different nonprofits, returned to Iowa to work with **elder refugee services**, took a position **engaging and mentoring teens** at the YWCA, and has just completed over three years working with **Self Help** as a program manager in **Ghana**.

Jessica will study at the **London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine**, focusing on women's reproductive issues.

She has planned a project in five of the communities of the **Ashanti region of Ghana**, which will implement programs and support to provide teenage girls with important information about their reproductive health. Her project aims to:

Reduce teenage pregnancies and the concomitant issues of the health and wellbeing of the mother and the infant; and

Encourage girls to finish their schooling, seek further training, and have healthier lives.

Global Scholarships are a program of **The Rotary Foundation** of Rotary International.

IOWA MILE OF SMILES TEAM (M.O.S.T.)

Cataract repairs now part of our mission

"Imagine a world that deserves our best, where we get up each day knowing that we can make a difference."

~ RI President Jennifer Jones

By Deb Dunkhase/Iowa City AM

Iowa Miles Of Smiles Team, team leader

It's been almost a year since RI President Jennifer Jones challenged Rotarians to dream big and take action. She urged members to engage more with each other and use these connections to build partnerships that can change the world.

President Jones, we have taken your inspirational words to heart as we prepare for our 18th cleft lip and palate medical mission to Guatemala in January 2023.



Deb Dunkhase

Thanks to the vision of Iowa MOST founders **Dr. Bill Olin, Dr. John Canady, Gary and Nancy Pacha, and Dr. Pete Wallace** – the relationships created and nurtured by the Iowa MOST team are truly changing the world for children who suffer medical complications and are ostracized from society due to **cleft birth defects**, and adults and individuals who have lost the ability to see due to **cataracts**.

Those bold dreams of the Iowa MOST founders to travel to the most remote parts of **Guatemala** with surgical help have been transforming dreams into reality for over 18 years.

Two trips in 2023

Iowa MOST will be headed to **Huehuetenango, Guatemala** in **January** and **May** of 2023 to perform two different medical missions at the request of our international partners, the Rotary Club of Huehuetenango.

It is significant to note that I'm incredibly proud to share with you that Iowa MOST projects are not conceived of in a meeting room here in the U.S. Rather, our projects are birthed in Huehuetenango, Guatemala with fellow Rotarians (usually while sharing a meal) as we listen to our Guatemalan friends talk about the needs of their most vulnerable community members and the possibility of working to work together to provide help through Service Above Self.

2023 Cleft Mission: January 21-29

This year's team of 30 dedicated individuals will travel to Huehuetenango, in the Western Highlands of Guatemala, to perform a **cleft lip and palate surgical mission** in the privately owned Salus I Hospital.

The Iowa MOST team is primarily made up of non-Rotarian medical professionals including surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, pediatricians, physicians' assistants, and oral surgeons from Iowa, Wisconsin, Nebraska and New Mexico, as well as non-medical volunteers.

This year we are thrilled to have a high percentage of Rotarians from three different districts making up 30 percent of the team. Rotarians participating in the Jan. 21-29 mission:

Dr. John Canady, Iowa City Noon Rotary

Cassye Dunkhase, Boulder Rotary, Boulder, Colorado New Generations Club

Deb Dunkhase, Iowa City AM Rotary

Dr. Dan Jorgensen, Spencer Rotary

Sandy Kessler, Iowa City AM Rotary

Amy Nicholson, Iowa City AM Rotary



Iowa M.O.S.T. cleft lip, cleft palate patient Fernando with his dad, Ricardo, in 2019 (r) and 2021 (l).

Dr. Tom Novak, Iowa City AM Rotary

Mark Ruggeberg, Iowa City Downtown Rotary

Thais Winkleblack, Iowa City Noon Rotary

2023 Cataract Mission: May 19-28 (tentative)

According to research performed by Seva.org, at least 80,000 Guatemalans are blind as a result of cataracts. Imagine.

Just imagine the difference we as Rotarians can make if a cataract surgical team could perform free surgeries for the poverty-stricken Guatemalans. Their lives could change dramatically with a simple 10-minute surgery.

That is exactly what Iowa MOST has done! 2023 will be our fourth cataract mission to Huehuetenango, helping give sight to those stricken by cataracts. Working with the **Rotary Club of Huehuetenango** and the **Rotary Club of Edmonton, Canada**, who collaboratively perform the initial screenings during their annual January optometry mission. Working with the Rotary Club of Huehuetenango, Iowa MOST is able to enact positive change for hundreds of Guatemalans.

It takes a village

The Iowa MOST mission is the epitome of the African proverb "It takes a village to raise a child." Fernando and the many young children just like him, as well as the Guatemalan elders who now have renewed sight, would still be living lives void of a healthy future without the entire Rotary village.

It takes Rotarian donors, doctors, nurses, volunteers and our Guatemalan Rotarian partners to help Fernando lead a life filled with hope for a bright future. On behalf of the hundreds of people who are impacted by Iowa MOST, thank you for your support!

How you can help

Want to help? Here are ways you can join the Iowa MOST team.

Ask your Rotary club to dedicate some of your annual dues to support this District 6000 International Project

Donate yourself at <https://iowamost.org/donate-now>

Contact us to donate medical or outreach supplies at deb-dunkhase@gmail.com

On behalf of all of the people of Guatemala whose lives have been changed by Rotary District 6000's Iowa MOST Mission, MUCHAS GRACIAS A TODOS!

Xicotepec service trips resume in March!

By Jim Peterson/Iowa City AM

District 6000 Xicotepec Project Co-Chair

After a three-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic, a D6000 project team will return to **Xicotepec** in March 2023.

After the initial contact between D6000 and the **Xicotepec Rotary Club** in 2001 and a small team from Iowa that made an initial visit to the **eastern Mexican village** in 2002, the first project team went to Xicotepec in March of 2003, and annual visits followed in each year through 2019.

17 consecutive years

In these 17 consecutive years of project team visits, over 1,000 participants – including students and faculty from the University of Iowa and Iowa State University, as well as D6000 **Rotarians, Rotaractors** and **Interactors** and their family members – traveled to Xicotepec to help execute the projects of the Xicotepec Rotary Club. These projects included many education- and health-related efforts to improve the lives of Xicotepec's citizens and improve the schools and services of Xicotepec itself.

Projects have included **construction of school classrooms, libraries and playgrounds, de-worming of thousands of preschool and elementary school children, projects to improve dental hygiene for school-age children, landscaping of schools and a home for the elderly, improvements at the local chapter of the Red Cross, and many other humanitarian and community development initiatives** backed by the Xicotepec Rotary Club, with a membership that fluctuates from 15 to 20 members.

Canceled by Covid

In 2020, a few days before the planned departure in mid-March, the project team's trip to Xicotepec was cancelled due to rapidly-spreading waves of COVID-19 in Iowa and the world. The pandemic also resulted in the cancellation of trips in 2021 and 2022.

In October, 2022 a small planning team from D6000 visited Xicotepec for the first time in three years in order to plan for the project team visit in March of 2023. The planning team encountered a community that was as warm and welcoming as ever, despite the extended absence from Xicotepec.

As in the past, the fall planning team visited potential project sites to speak with community members and gather information in preparation for the March "gringo invasion" of Xicotepec. A number of requests (solicitudes) for support from various schools and community groups were reviewed and discussed with the Xicotepec Rotarians, and several potential candidates were identified for projects to be tackled in March.

Between last October's visit and the project team's arrival in March, potential projects will be reviewed, budget and other information will be gathered and shared, and final selection of projects for the 2023 team will be made.

Service learning

As in every visit to Xicotepec, beginning in 2007, a team of service-learners from the University of Iowa will join the project team to execute projects related to their areas of study. In March, teams from the **College of Dentistry** and the **College of Public Health**, members of which are enrolled in a semester-long service-learning course, will be in Xicotepec over spring break to execute their projects. **Dental students** will be continuing a multi-year oral hygiene promotion effort involving school students, teachers and parents, as well as administering **fluoride varnish** treatments for school children to reduce the incidence of dental caries. **Public Health** students will be developing a project related to family violence, and hope

to work together with public officials and community groups in an effort to gather, analyze and disseminate information with the goal of reducing domestic violence and child abuse.

The March 2023 project team, with 34 members, will be the smallest to travel to Xicotepec in the history of the Project. The team members are named below.

More information on The Xicotepec Project of District 6000 and the Rotary Club of Xicotepec can be found at <https://xicoproject.org> or <https://www.facebook.com/xicoproj>

Project coordinators can be contacted at info@xicoproj.org



Connecting with friends in the October planning trip, (l-r): Rotarian Hugo García, his daughter Ana Paola, Jim Peterson, Carol Narak, Tom Narak, Teté González (wife of Rotarian Millo Fosado), Xicotepec Rotary Club president Ignacio "Nacho" Ramírez, U of I Professor of Public Health Paul Gilbert, Rotarian Millo Fosado, and Gabriela Fosado (daughter of Millo and Teté).

2023 team members

Rotarians:

Allison Boge (Iowa City AM)
Christine Catney (Iowa City)
Robert Main (Newton)
Alta Medea-Peters (Iowa City AM)
Carol Narak (West Des Moines)
PDG Thomas Narak (West Des Moines)
Jim Peterson (Iowa City AM)
DG Steve Wieneke (Ankeny)
Katie Wilford (Linn County, D5970)

Service-learners:

Alanna Bram (Dentistry)
Lyndi Heldenbrand (Dentistry)
Mariah Oyen (Dentistry)
Krayton Schnepf (Dentistry)
Isabel Wolf (Dentistry)
Jacquelyn Yeh (Dentistry)
Amy Lesch (Faculty, Dentistry)
Jennifer Sukalski (Faculty, Dentistry)
Cameron Coates (Public Health)
Grace Ellis (Public Health)
Morgan Fisher (Public Health)

Madeline Fitzgerald (Public Health)
Ekhlas Khalil (Public Health)
Abigail McKenna (Public Health)
Claire Schneidermann (Public Health)
Anna Sullivan (Public Health)
Isabel Thomas (Public Health)
Michaela Zimmer (Public Health)
Paul Gilbert (Faculty, Public Health)

Rotaractors, Interactors, Other:

Amiritha Kumar (Rotaractor, Iowa City)
Jasmine Sanasinh (Rotaractor, Iowa City)
Sara Albarracin Perez (Interactor, Valley HS, West Des Moines)
Deanna Zinno (formerly of Ankeny RC & Xicotepec veteran)
Gianna Zinno (family)
Taylor Hopper (other, Water Team)

SERVICE TO YOUTH

RYLA conference at Grinnell July 16-21

By Wayne Steen/West Liberty

Iowa RYLA Chair, 2022

The Iowa RYLA board of directors in September selected a conference chair for Iowa RYLA 2024. **Lynne Kuethe** of District 5970 had been the elected conference chair for 2024, but due to family obligations she is not able to be the chair in 2024.

Zach Fisher was elected by the board to be the conference chair for Iowa RYLA 2024. He has been a Rotarian volunteer for many years at Iowa RYLA and he enthusiastically accepted the role. Therefore, the Iowa RYLA 2023 conference chair will be **Patt Englander** of Bettendorf, and **Zach Fisher** is the chair-elect for 2023 and Zach will be the conference chair in 2024.

We had to call the special meeting at this time, because the head counselors' applicants for Iowa RYLA 2023 were due by Sept. 30. The past chair **Dave Kutter**, the current chair **Patt Englander**, and the chair-elect conduct the head counselors' interviews in October. We had to have a chair-elect in place to be able to conduct the interviews.

Seven students have applied for the head counselors' positions and their interviews will begin shortly.

Dave Kutter, who has been the registrar since Iowa RYLA began, announced at the September board meeting that he will be retiring as the registrar at the end of Iowa RYLA 2023. The board has created a temporary committee to create a job description for the role of the registrar. We hope to have a new registrar named before Iowa RYLA 2023 so that she/he can "job shadow" Dave during Iowa RYLA 2023.

The policies and procedures standing committee will hold its annual meeting Oct. 14 at **Linda Nudd's** house in Bellevue. Other committees will meet during the winter months and report to the board of directors at the February board meeting.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Iowa RYLA board of directors will be Nov. 4 at Grinnell College.

At that meeting we will meet the newly named head counselors for Iowa RYLA 2023.

Iowa RYLA 2023 will be Sunday, July 16 through Friday, July 21 at Grinnell College. Thank you so very much for all of your outstanding support of Iowa RYLA!



Jasmine Sanasinh (team leader) and Wayne Steen (Rotarian volunteer) at Iowa RYLA 2022. Jasmine is a student at the University of Iowa and is president of the Iowa City Rotaract Club. Wayne is a member of the Rotary Club of West Liberty and Iowa RYLA Board Chairperson.



West Liberty Rotarians Wayne Steen, at left, who is the Iowa RYLA board chairperson, and club president Sara Sedlacek with RYLA students Amerie Alvarado and Victoria Machado.

Piper Carroll, Jeremiah Collins name head counselors for 2023

By Wayne Steen/West Liberty

Iowa RYLA Chair, 2022

Patt Englander, the Iowa RYLA 2023 Conference chair, has announced the head counselors of Iowa RYLA 2023.

Piper Carroll, a student at Iowa State University, and **Jeremiah Collins** a student at the University of California at Berkeley, will be the head counselors for Iowa RYLA 2023.

Piper and **Jeremiah** are two outstanding young people and they will do a great job as head counselors at Iowa RYLA 2023. We need to get the word out to all of our Rotary clubs in Districts 5970 and 6000 about the fantastic opportunities that Iowa RYLA provides our Iowa high school students.

The 2022 RYLA conference was July 16-22 at Grinnell College, attended by 160 students. District 6000 News regrets we do not have permission to publish pictures of conferees.

Students: 'We had a great time and learned many things'

By Wayne Steen/West Liberty

Iowa RYLA Chair, 2022

Amerie Alvarado and **Victoria Machado**, West Liberty High School students who attended Iowa RYLA in July at Grinnell College, commented about their experience. "We had a great time and learned many things about leadership at Iowa RYLA."

The girls are active in the West Liberty High School Interact Club. The Interact Advisor is Erica Jennings.

If you are currently a freshman or sophomore in high school and are interested in attending Iowa RYLA next summer, July 16-21 at Grinnell College, please contact your local Rotary clubs.

The West Liberty Rotary Club sponsors two to four students a year to Iowa RYLA.

District programs focus on youth

RYE coming back after Covid

By Greg Probst/Iowa City AM

District 6000 Youth Exchange Chair

The start of our RYE 2022-23 program is well underway. Please find the various information points for RYE:

We have all four inbound students at their first host families, and we had our first inbound orientation meeting on Oct. 1 in Ankeny.

Unfortunately, we had one of two outbound students, Ean Stark, drop out of RYE due to a last-minute medical issue.

We visited Ankeny PM club for a RYE presentation.

Several former RYE students (Rotex) will be moving into leadership positions within our RYE program. This is a very important step for promoting our early professionals into Rotary leadership roles, providing new insights, and creating a succession plan for the RYE program. All four are from the IC AM PM Club: Taylor Sung, Catherine Pinter, Erin Hansen and Lisa Truong.

We are in the process of sorting out the logistics with Steve Wieneke on the District Conference this spring for not only RYE, but RYLA, Rotaract and Interact as well.

I have asked our AGs to become more hands-on with promoting our youth programs and to ensure clubs are moving in a direction to establish their youth program teams.

I believe we can all agree that Rotary has entered into an important nexus in terms of membership growth, and it's all hands on deck for every Rotarian.

Our youth programs are supported at the grassroots. We cannot recruit host families and outbound students if our clubs are not engaged with their own community's youth.

I suggest a path that does not allow these club programs to enter the "out of sight, out of mind" black hole, and one way is to continuously seek their feedback and need for help along with the status of club development.

We are coming out of a pandemic, but it astounds me to date how the DSM community, including Ankeny, West Des Moines, Waukee, Urbandale, and Johnston, cannot produce any outbound student interest. Let's see if we can get these clubs moving forward again – they are critical given the population density, scope of diversity, and proximity to our state's capital.

If we need to get them Rotex support for high school presentations, etc., please let me know. Unfortunately, there are no easy answers to this one, and it's going to require some heavy lifting.



Rotary Youth Exchange students at the April 2022 District Conference at Coralville.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

Interact working with D-5970

By Wayne Steen/West Liberty

District 6000 Interact Chair

Katie Wilford, the District 5970 Interact chair, and I have been working on a joint zoom meeting for our two districts. The zoom meeting was Oct. 23. We invited Interact club advisers, Rotary/Interact liaisons, and Interact club officers.

The theme of the zoom meeting was "Imagine Interact." We held short discussions on What is Rotary? and What is Interact? The main focus was on fellowship and ideas of service projects that the Interact clubs can do this school year. We hope to have follow-up zoom meetings every other month for the Interact advisors and club officers.

Longer term, Katie and I are still working on the District Conferences planning for Interact. The District 5970 Conference in Waverly is the same weekend as our District Conference in Coralville (April 22). Therefore, I plan to hold an Interact meeting during the day of the Coralville conference of just District 6000 Interact clubs who are near to Coralville. Katie and I will be working together the following weekend (April 29) at the West Des Moines conference for Interact Clubs in both districts that are near West Des Moines.

At both Coralville and West Des Moines we are tentatively looking at approximately 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the Interact kids to meet.

During last year's District 6000 conference we lost the majority of our Interact students at 2 p.m. as they left for their proms. We are expecting the same problem to occur again in 2023.

Two new Interact clubs have submitted applications and are awaiting recognition from RI and both should be chartered soon. The Iowa Quad Cities community-based high school club is being coordinated by **Patrick Engelhaupt** from the Rotary Club of **Bettendorf**. The Rotary Club of **Marshalltown** is creating a new high school based Interact club and is being assisted by past president **Bonnie Lowry**, and current president **Ric Anderson**.

District 6000 Interact Clubs Active in 2021-22

Bettendorf: Pleasant Valley HS Interact Club

Clinton: Clinton HS Interact Club

Coralville North Corridor: Clear Creek Amana HS Interact Club

Corydon: Wayne High School Club

Decatur County: Central Decatur High School Club

Des Moines: Hoover HS Interact Club

Des Moines AM: Roosevelt HS Interact Club

East Polk County: SE Polk HS Interact Club

Fairfield: Fairfield Interact Club

Indianola: Indianola HS Interact Club

Iowa City (Noon): Liberty HS Interact Club

Iowa City AM: City HS Interact Club

Iowa City AM: West HS Interact Club

Jefferson: Greene County HS Interact Club

Mt. Pleasant: Mt. Pleasant HS Interact Club

Newton: Newton HS Interact Club

North Scott: North Scott Junior High Interact Club; North Scott HS Service Club

NW Des Moines: Urbandale HS Interact Club

Oskaloosa: Oskaloosa HS Interact Club

Ottumwa: Ottumwa HS Interact Club

Perry: Perry HS Interact Club

Tipton: Tipton HS Interact Club

Waukee: Waukee HS Interact Club

Waukee: Prairieview School Interact Club

Wellman: Mid-Prairie HS Interact Club

West Des Moines: Valley HS Interact Club

West Liberty: West Liberty HS Interact Club

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Incredible 'Return on Investment'

By Norlan Hinke/Clinton

District 6000 Rotary Foundation Chair

There were two **Global Grants** approved for District 6000 Rotary clubs during Rotary year 2021-22 with a total investment of \$93,800 in the projects.

One project purchased equipment to furnish an **Ear, Nose, Throat Clinic** in a hospital that provides medical needs to disadvantaged people in an area serving **Lebanese** citizens and encampments of **Palestinian and Syrian refugees**. This project will benefit more than 1,000 individuals annually.

The other project provides improved sanitation for a village in **Nicaragua**. There were 120 **ecological latrines** constructed for individual households, pre-schools and a church. This project will provide sanitation and hygiene education for more than 585 people.

Global Grants in 2022-23

There had been four **Global Grants** awarded in 2022-23 as of September. The grants total \$465,870.

They are to provide:

Ecological sanitation facilities for 35 early childhood development centers in **South Africa**;

Mobile clinics for ante-natal and post-natal care in five rural **Uganda** health centers;

Train 300 healthcare workers in information communication technology to establish a disease prevention training program in **Uganda**; and

Provide a borehole well and personal water transport devices for rural areas in **South Africa**.

Jessica Crawford is a recipient of a Rotary Foundation Global Grants Scholarship and is currently attending the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine pursuing a masters degree. Jessica has experience working in rural communities in Ghana and plans to return there after her studies to address endemic issues impacting maternal and child health.

Community Grants

In 2021-22, there were 28 **Community Service Grants** awarded

to 27 District 6000 Rotary clubs, totaling \$111,252. These grant funds were invested back into the local Rotary communities for projects that allowed the 27 Rotary clubs to show support and benefit each of their communities and the citizens.

In 2022-23, there were 27 Community Service Grants awarded to 25 District 6000 Rotary clubs. The total grant funds awarded were \$95,574. Each of these 25 clubs will have the opportunity to carry out their designated projects to enhance the quality of life and available resources in their communities.

The Community Service grants (page 6) varied from park beautification to tree restoration to shoes for kids to community showers to preschool book projects to food pantry equipment to literacy and math centers to provide special events for underprivileged youth.

Emergency Disaster Relief Grants

In addition, District 6000 applied and was awarded a \$25,000 Emergency Disaster Relief Grant that supported medical and food supplies to **Ukraine**. This was a cooperative effort with several other Rotary districts to assist the people of Ukraine impacted by the war with Russia.

A second Emergency Disaster Relief Grant was awarded District 6000 to assist with a housing project to replace personal residences destroyed in the war. In the community, it was estimated that 85 percent of the people were without homes, resulting in them having no bathroom facilities, place to sleep or eat, or exist as a family.

Return on Investment!

These are just a sample of the many good things that have been accomplished through District 6000 Global and Community Service Grants. The Rotary Foundation Committee encourages all 66 Rotary clubs to seriously consider an application for a **Global Grant** or a **Community Service Grant** or both.

It is a simple means to leverage local club dollars to do good things for your local community and the citizen. It also provides a solid image for each Rotary club and may in fact assist in membership retention or growth.

There is indeed a "Return on your Investment" through the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International!

DOUG FLOURNOY

Fairfield Rotarian to chair Global Grants committee

Rotary Club of Fairfield member **Doug Flourney** has joined the Global Grants Committee as co-chair for the remainder of the current Rotary year, **District Governor Steve Wieneke** and **District Rotary Foundation Chair Norlan Hinke** announced. Flourney will move into the committee chairmanship on July 1, 2023, succeeding Davenport Rotarian **Brock Earnhardt** who is retiring from the position after many years of distinguished service at the end of the current year.

According to Hinke, "Doug has a lengthy record of international humanitarian service and experience leading Rotary Foundation grant projects that makes him an excellent choice to lead District 6000's highly successful global grants program."

Flourney has initiated applications on behalf of the Rotary Club of Fairfield for 12 successful international grants in

four countries. He has led fundraising for all of the Fairfield-sponsored projects and secured support from other D6000 clubs and from clubs in several other countries. He has presented programs about The Rotary Foundation grants to meetings of other clubs and to district conferences to introduce others to the opportunities for international humanitarian service.

Flourney was part of the four-member steering committee that developed District 6000's policies and procedures for District Grants and Global Grants as the district transitioned to the current grants model in 2013-14. He has been awarded The Rotary Foundation's **Citation for Meritorious Service**.

Flourney chaired District 6000's District Grants Committee from 2008 to 2019.

Flourney retired earlier in 2022 from Indian Hills Community College where he was Professor of Chemistry.

Rotary Foundation Giving: APF, Polio, Endowments

District 6000 Clubs • July 1, 2022 - Jan. 8, 2023 (*)

(Members: July 1, 2015-16-17-18-19-20-21-22)	(1) 22-23 Goal	(2) % of Goal	(3) Per capita	(4) Thru 1-8-23	(5) PolioPlus	(6) Other (**)	(7) TOTAL
Adel (37-37-34-32-28-24-21-27)	\$ 5,000	6	\$ 10.37	\$ 280	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 280
Albia (22-28-28-24-24-29-29-32)	501	120	18.75	600	0	0	600
Ames (224-226-217-206-186-172-167-158)	20,000	46	57.61	9,103	5,260	0	14,363
Ames Morning (55-55-59-59-52-46-43-43)	6,000	455	634.70	27,292	1,500	2,000	30,792
Ankeny (61-77-85-86-83-101, 97-109)	20,000	59	108.30	11,805	905	8,300	21,010
Atlantic (58-58-58-56-62-62- 59-53)	2,000	91	34.32	1,819	0	0	1,819
Bettendorf (103-101-102-105-93-100- 94-123)	15,000	18	21.34	2,625	875	0	3,500
Bloomfield (10-10-10-11-12-12-13-13)	1,500	98	113.46	1,475	215	0	1,690
Boone (42-34-41-51-50-46- 50-59)	5,500	240	223.31	13,175	3,265	25,	41,440
Burlington (80-79-80-80-76-73-62-60)	2,500	16	6.67	400	0	0	400
Carroll (46-44-43-44-42-26-35-34)	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Centerville (50-46-45-46-45-38-38-34)	3,000	85	75.00	2,550	100	0	2,650
Chariton (41-41-34-30-39-40-36-32)	3,300	47	48.44	1,550	0	0	1,550
Clinton (98-97-94-90-91-80-70-77)	8,000	81	84.34	6,494	0	0	6,494
Coon Rapids (27-31-34-30-29-28-27-21)	500	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coralville-N. Corridor (20-21-22-24-23-22-23-24)	2,200	45	41.47	1,000	0	0	1,000
Corning (34-33-32-32-31-30-27-28)	0	-	36.43	1,020	1,000	0	2,020
Corydon (18-15-15-17-16-18-16-16)	1,300	8	6.25	100	0	0	100
Creston (23-19-17-18-21-21-21-21)	200	38	3.57	75	0	0	75
Dallas Center (27-29-26-25-28-30-24-27)	2,700	0	0	0	0	0	0
Davenport (112-113-110-107-101-94-67-56)	3,000	157	84.11	4,710	2,100	0	6,810
Decatur County (30-32-31-30-30-28-30-29)	6,000	2	3.45	100	100	0	200
Denison (x-x-x-x-x-31-32-31)	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Des Moines (276-270-269-255-240-227-189)	16,000	55	46.30	8,750	0	0	8,750
Des Moines AM (170-170-179-189-194-200-209-194-192)	14,000	40	29.04	5,575	200	0	5,775
East Polk County (34-31-29-29-27-22-23-18)	2,000	61	68.06	1,225	952	1,000	3,177
Fairfield (74-60-57-56-47-41-34-32)	0	-	24.69	790	200	0	990
Fort Madison (49-53-55-51-48-42-43-44)	4,700	43	46.02	2,026	214	0	2,240
Greater Des Moines (12-12-11-13-26-17-12-11)	1,000	53	47.73	525	195	500	1,220
Grinnell (38-40-35-38-36-34-32-33)	6,000	77	139.24	4,595	0	0	4,595
Indianola (54-53-54-47-39-37-32-29)	3,000	53	54.48	1,580	395	0	1,975
Iowa City (312-329-333-317-293-271-239-225)	3,750	655	109.09	24,545	300	5,049	29,984
Iowa City AM (66-69-74-71-74-79-75-70)	16,000	71	161.29	11,290	5,547	0	16,837
Iowa City Downtown (23-21-23-25-22-24-20-22)	3,750	49	83.14	1,829	0	0	1,829
Iowa Quad-Cities (41-42-38-42-38-36-32-29)	2,000	38	25.86	750	0	0	750
Jefferson (59-59-56-60-59-55-46-40)	5,000	32	40.43	1,617	40	0	1,657
Johnston (60-49-52-43-49-44-41-45)	6,300	113	157.96	7,108	532	0	7,640
Kalona (42-41-43-40-38-38-32-32)	1,500	13	6.25	200	2,410	0	2,610
Keokuk (66-71-57-53-45-41-37-37)	0	-	78.19	2,893	200	0	3,093
Keosauqua (24-22-23-24-26-26-24-25)	1,200	83	40.00	1,000	0	0	1,000
Knoxville (61-58-48-53-45-34-30-28)	2,500	52	46.07	1,290	500	0	1,790
Lenox (29-28-27-25-25-25-25-15)	1,000	10	6.67	100	0	0	100
Manning (19-25-21-23-22-22-20-20)	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marengo (11-10-10-11-10-10-9)	50	200	11.11	100	0	0	100
Marshalltown (150-147-145-133-127-117-111-129)	7,500	90	52.52	6,775	2,635	52,519	61,929
Mt. Pleasant Noon (52-55-47-51-56-53-44-39)	1,000	125	32.05	1,250	0	0	1,250
Mt. Pleasant (20-20-18-18-15-15-15)	1,400	43	40.00	600	520	100	1,220
Muscatine (79-77-69-66-67-62-60-62)	10,000	61	98.79	6,125	525	0	6,650
Nevada (71-69-61-53-54-48-56-59)	10,000	29	49.75	2,935	2,000	0	4,935
Newton (60-55-49-40-36-38-33-34)	3,000	13	11.76	400	2,250	0	2,650
North Scott (85-86-89-88-88-95-91-100)	12,000	47	56.25	5,625	1,181	3,516	10,322
N'West Des Moines (34-40-36-37-36-37-29-29)	8,000	51	139.81	4,055	350	0	4,405
Norwalk (0-0-20-24-18-17-18)	500	415	129.69	2,075	0	0	2,075
Osceola (28-29-25-22-22-21-17-17)	500	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oskaloosa (56-55-57-54-59-59-49-46)	5,000	8	8.91	410	0	0	410
Ottumwa (97-98-92-89-82-75-75-70)	7,500	0	0	0	1,000	0	1,000
Pella (29-30-29-29-26-26-27-28)	3,000	6	6.25	175	100	0	275
Perry (26-26-26-23-22-22-22-25)	900	67	24.00	600	51	500	1,151
Tipton (30-26-27-22-28-23-23-20)	2,000	2	2.00	40	0	0	40
Washington (49-48-43-42-43-41-35-31)	4,300	91	125.81	3,900	350	200	4,250
Waukee (58-64-69-64-68-73-69-76)	8,000	44	52.57	3,995	655	5,100	9,750
Wellman (36-34-30-29-26-23-20-20)	2,000	154	154.05	3,081	0	0	3,081
West Des Moines (62-63-52-51-50-45-38-42)	4,500	61	64.95	2,728	1,000	10,103	13,831
West Liberty (43-44-46-41-38-36-37-42)	13,000	68	209.88	8,815	200	0	9,015
West Polk County (31-18-19-20-24-21-17)	500	0	0	0	250	0	250
Winterset (25-30-33-29-30-32)	4,000	134	167.34	5,355	4,430	0	9,785
Total (3,854-3,853-3,793-3,693-3,580-3,464-3,212)	\$ 312,550	71.32	\$ 69.83	\$ 222,898	\$ 45,202		\$ 381,688

(*) Interim Report. (**) Other includes endowment fund and restricted giving for grants

ADEL, AID FOR UKRAINE

Global minds and Iowa hearts

By Del Christensen/Adel

Director, IRIS

In 2014, a group of Ukrainians visited Iowa as part of a three-week educational exchange program. These 10 visitors from **Lviv, Ukraine**, were part of a USAID-funded project to learn about minority rights and tolerance. The program was coordinated by an Iowa nonprofit called Iowa Resource for International Service (IRIS).

Several members of the group were hosted in the homes of members of the **Adel Rotary Club**. One of those participants, Oleg Gural, had recently joined the Rotary Club of Lviv back in his hometown and was very excited to visit a Rotary club in Iowa.

The entire group attended an Adel Rotary meeting and were delighted by the warm welcome and “Iowa nice” hospitality they received. At the end of their three weeks in Iowa, they all felt they had a second family here in Iowa.

Eight years later

Eight years later, and as the Adel Rotarians hear about the war in Ukraine, their first thoughts are of their guests who they shared meals, conversations and friendships. Their first concerns were for the safety of their friends.

Del Christensen, Adel Rotarian and director of IRIS, contacted Oleg and the other participants from the 2014 group and found many still safe and staying in Lviv rather than fleeing the conflict. They knew the need for help was great, and someone needed to help those injured and traveling to safety.

The Rotary Club of Adel reached out to Oleg and the



Rotarian Oleg Gural and other Ukrainians visited the Iowa capitol in 2014 Contributed photo

Rotary Club of Lviv and asked, “How can we help?” Oleg noted that many Ukrainians fleeing the eastern part of the country travel through Lviv on their way to Poland and other nearby countries.

These refugees are tired, hungry, and often in need of medical assistance by the time they get to Lviv and close to the country’s border. The Rotary Club Lviv and other Rotary clubs in the area are working with hospitals and mobile clinics to provide much needed medical care and supplies for these weary refugees.

Conver

The Adel Rotary Club quickly raised \$6,500 which was sent to the Rotary Club of Lviv. With this donation, they were able to purchase tourniquets and other emergency medical supplies for mobile clinics near several of the refugee centers.

In addition, the Rotary Club Lviv was able to purchase a disinfection chamber and air sterilizer for a local operating surgery clinic. The club also purchased food and clothing for refugees.

Now, nearly six months into the war, the city of Lviv continues to serve as a safe haven and way station to Ukrainians displaced by the conflict, and the Rotary Club Lviv continues to lead in these actions.

The Adel Rotary Club is pleased to be an early supporter of these efforts. The

bonds of friendship developed eight years earlier only grew stronger thanks to the connections and fellowship of Rotary.

ON THE COVER:

Much-needed medical supplies make it to mobile clinics in western Ukraine.



Members of the Rotary Club of Lviv delivered medical supplies, food and clothing to refugee camps. Contributed photo



Ukrainian Rotarian Oleg Gurai volunteered with Habitat for Humanity during his visit to Iowa in 2014. Contributed photo

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER

Rotary joins effort to honor an icon

By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson

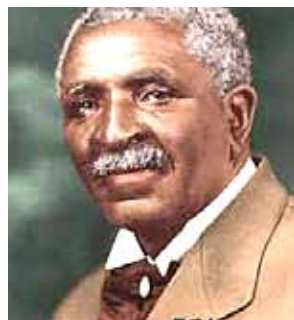
Assistant Editor, District 6000 News

The initiative to establish a permanent annual Official Day of Recognition for **George Washington Carver** began with a June, 2020 op-ed in *The Des Moines Register* co-authored by **Ambassador Kenneth Quinn** and **Simon Estes**, both recipients of the **Iowa Medal**, our state's highest citizen award, a recognition they share with Professor Carver.

With the critical support of Iowa State University president **Wendy Wintersteen**, Simpson University president **Marsha Kelliher**, **Dr. Angela Franklin** of Des Moines University and a strongly committed steering group, they then engaged a Distinguished Group of more than 100 of Iowa's most significant agricultural, religious, civic, business and educational leaders and institutions in urging that bipartisan legislation be enacted making **February 1** each year as the official date to honor Professor Carver's legacy.

Rotary lends support

Among those supporting this initiative are: the state FFA leadership; **Rotary District 6000**; the leaders of major religious faiths; the Iowa Business Council; America's Cultivation Corridor; agricultural commodity groups such as the Iowa Soybean Association, Iowa Corn Growers, the Iowa Pork Producers, Iowa Egg and Poultry Board and the Iowa Dairy Association; the Greater Des Moines Partnership; and an array of Iowa CEOs and executives including: Harry Stine, Charles Sukup, Dan Houston, Bill Knapp, Gage Kent, Suku Radia, Ambassador Charles Larson, Thomas Philips (retired from Pioneer), Joe Murphy and Billi Hunt.



George Washington Carver

It is with the enormous appreciation of this entire array of Iowans that the bipartisan leadership of both Houses of the Legislature worked together to pass the needed legislation and that **Governor Kim Reynolds** has now sign the bill. These actions will ensure that George Washington Carver's inspiring story and historic legacy is highlighted every year for future generations.

Hoover, Borlaug

Only twice before in Iowa's 175 year history has a Day of Recognition been established to honor an individual: one for



Governor Kim Reynolds signed a proclamation declaring Feb. 1 as a permanent annual Official Day of Recognition for George Washington Carver.

Provided by Ambassador Kenneth Quinn

President Herbert Hoover; and a second for Nobel Peace Prize Laureate **Dr. Norman E. Borlaug**. Both individuals had great humanitarian achievements. **George Washington Carver** has an equally inspiring story worthy of the same recognition as those two historic figures.

George Washington Carver's Iowa odyssey has an interesting bipartisan element. During Carver's time in Ames, future Republican Secretary of Agriculture **Henry C. Wallace**, who was then serving on the faculty of Iowa State, befriended Carver. Carver would take Wallace's young son, the future Democratic Secretary of Agriculture **Henry A. Wallace**, on nature walks where he taught him lessons about plants and fruit.

Commitment to peace

Rotary District 6000 represents over 3,000 members in the southern half of Iowa an area where Carver, a freed slave, distinguished himself as an agricultural scientist at Iowa State University in Ames after beginning his post-secondary education at Simpson College in the late 1880s.

Carver's humanitarian and agricultural legacy aligns with Rotary's dedication to causes that build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world by supporting efforts to foster peace and to end polio forever.

PDG Alka Khanolkar honored for leadership in anti-human trafficking

District Governor 2021-22 **Alka Khanolkar** of Keokuk received an **Outstanding Anti-Trafficking Service Award** from **Governor Kim Reynolds** and the Iowa Network Against Human Trafficking and Slavery (NAHT) Jan. 12, at 11:00 a.m. in the Rotunda of the Iowa State Capitol Building.

She was nominated by **Ames Rotarian Dr. George Belitos** and **West Liberty Rotarian Tom Barr** for her leadership in creating awareness of human trafficking during her year as district governor.

Congratulations, Alka, and thank you for your leadership!



PDG Alka Khanolkar

WEST DES MOINES, MUSCATINE

Dinners highlight Rotary Foundation

Rotary Foundation Dinners were attended by 77 at West Des Moines on Oct. 21 and 48 at Muscatine on Oct. 28. Featured speaker at West Des Moines was **Ed Arnold**, and at Muscatine was **John Kuhl**.

District 6000 achievements in giving in Zone 29 in 2021-22 were recognized: **Highest per capita total giving**, \$519; **Highest percentage of EREY participation**, 66.9 percent; **Highest total giving**, \$1,669,628; **Third place in Annual Fund Giving**; **PolioPlus contributions**, \$84,315; and **PolioPlus Society**, 66 members.

At both venues, **District Foundation Chair Norlan Hinke** gave the welcome. "Off the Grid" a capella group of Ankeny sang the National Anthem at West Des Moines, and Keith Haan sang the National Anthem at Muscatine. At both venues, **District Governor Steve Wieneke** acknowledged **DGE Dennis Drager**, **DGN David Cook**, PDGs, and event chairs, **PDG Chris Knapp** and **Vernette** (West Des Moines), and **Norlan Hinke** (Muscatine).

The District Rotary Foundation Team was recognized at both venues: **DRFC Chair Hinke**, PDGs **Susan Herrick**, **Jacque Andrew**, **Denny Skinner** and **Corliss Klaassen**, and **Bill Koellner**, **Mark Ruggenberg**, **Doyle Sanders**, **Chris Bertelsen**, **Gretchen Nollman**, **Todd Wheeler**, **Brock Earnhardt**, and **Verne Folkmann**.

Annual Funds co-chairs **PDG Jacque Andrew** and **Bill Koellner** recognized EREY and Sustaining Members, Major Donors, Bequest Society, Paul Harris Society and PolioPlus Society members.

District Grant presentations were given by Ames Morning **Jerry Heid**, "Champions for Children's Literacy," at West Des Moines, and by **Josie Cochuyt** and **Pat Olsen**, "North Scott Rotary Adventures," at Muscatine.

Global Grant presentations were given by **Doug Flourney**, "Humanitarian Impact of Global Grants," at West Des Moines, and **Tomeka Petersen**, "Ponseti Method Transforms Lives," at Muscatine.

A video of Rotary Scholar **Jessica Crawford** was given at both events, and a polio update was given by **PDG Susan Herrick** at West Des Moines, and by **PDG Bill Tubbs** at Muscatine.



District Governor Steve Wieneke presented The Rotary Foundation Distinguished Service Award to North Scott Rotarian Bill Tubbs, with Linda, at the District Rotary Foundation Dinner Oct. 28 at Rendezvous in Muscatine.

Photo by Josie Cochuyt

Bill Tubbs presented Distinguished Service Award

By **PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson**

District 6000 Annual Fund Co-Chair

At the District 6000 Rotary Foundation Dinners Oct. 21 at West Des Moines and Oct. 28 at Muscatine, North Scott Rotarian **Bill Tubbs** was presented The Rotary Foundation's Distinguished Service Award, the Foundation's highest individual recognition.

A maximum of 45 Rotarians in the world may be selected by the Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees. Recipients must have demonstrated exemplary service to the Foundation and have achieved the **District Rotary Foundation Service Award** and the **Citation of Meritorious Service** at least four years prior. The award "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."

Bill is the sixth in District 6000 so honored: **Paul Hellwege** (Boone, 1997), **Don Goering** (Ames, 2007), **Herb Wilson** (Iowa City AM, 2011), **Brock Earnhardt** (Davenport, 2020), and **Corliss Klaassen** (Chariton, 2021).

West Liberty Rotarian Bill Koellner said, "The nominee enthusiastically advocated for The Rotary Foundation and the great good it can do through countless presentations at District Training events, District Foundation Dinners, District Conferences, District Grant Management Seminars and Presidents-Elect and Assistant Governor trainings."

"A master of telling the Rotary story, the nominee shared many illustrations of global and district grants and the benefit derived from them. As a charter member of a club, the nominee has served as club Foundation Chair for many years building support for The Rotary Foundation into club culture. This local club service, in addition to District and Regional experience, provided great credibility when working with



Presenters at the West Des Moines Rotary Foundation Dinner were Ed Arnold (Northwest Des Moines), PDG Susan Herrick (Boone), and Doug Flourney (Fairfield).

Photo by Bill Tubbs

DSA, continued on next page

66 percent in District 6000 'Every Rotarian, Every Year'

By Bill Koellner/West Liberty

District 6000 Annual Fund Co-Chair

Annually at the **Rotary Foundation Dinner**, we shared with the attendees the giving in our District. We are a fortunate District in that 66 percent of our Rotarians are EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) in The Rotary Foundation.

The Rotary Foundation has achieved the highest rating of Charity Navigator and has had that same distinction for several years. It is considered an elite charity. The expenses in the Foundation are so small that almost all our gifts are utilized for significant humanitarian projects worldwide.

The 66 percent is the highest giving percentage in our zone and we have held that level for more than 10 years. The average annual gift for the entire District has exceeded \$100/Rotarian since 2006-07 with nearly \$135 per Rotarian given last year. The membership in the District peaked at 4,500 in 2004-05. We are at about 3,200 presently, yet our total giving is increasing.

Paul Harris Society = 39 percent of Annual Funds given

We have 105 **Paul Harris Society** members, who give a minimum of \$1,000 annually, and their total giving last year exceeded \$180,000 out of the \$466,000 given, or about 39 percent of the Annual Funds given. The total number of Rotarians who gave \$1,000 last year was 190, so the **Paul Harris Society Eligible** were 85. PHSE are Rotarians who give \$1,000 to Rotary but have not joined the PHS. So the total given by Rotarians who gave \$1,000 or more is \$270,000 or 58 percent of the total given. Thank you, Rotarians!

Rotarians have a passion for the Foundation as demonstrated by their giving. We believe a concerted effort should be made to get more Rotarians to join the Paul Harris Society. The Paul Harris Society was formed at the District level in 2004-05 when 23 Rotarians were charter members. In 2013, Rotary International formed the PHS at the international level. In 2013, 34 Rotarians joined the Society, and each year more join, and now we have 105 in last 10 years.

149 Major Donors

Rotarians in District 6000 have given, and since **Major Donors** were recognized beginning in 1995, we have 149 Major Donors. Total Annual funds given in our District are about \$10,075,000. In 1995, the **Bequest Society** was formed to provide for future gifts to ensure Rotary's legacy, and funding for projects would continue for many years. Presently, the District has 86 members of the Bequest Society providing future gifts in excess of \$4,000,000. Since 1995, several Rotarians have already given through Bequests, and direct giving \$3,520,000.

The endowment fund has funds designated to **PEACE, SHARE and WORLD FUNDS**.

PolioPlus

PolioPlus funding by our District started in 1995, and to date about \$4,200,000 has been given by our District to eradicate polio. In 2021-22, District 6000 started the PolioPlus Society and 62 Rotarians are charter members.

Therefore, since 1995, a total of \$21,600,000 has been either given or promised to TRF.

Each year we honor Rotarians for attaining new levels in giving.

This evening, the following new achievements in giving are being recognized. **Major Donor Level 1** (\$10,000); **Level 2** (\$25,000); **Level 3** (\$50,000); **Level 4** (\$100,000); **Level 5** (\$250,000, AKS):

Daniel P. Divine: Level 1, Ames

Chris Connolly: Level 1, North Scott

LaDonna Wicklund and Gary Wicklund: Level 1, Iowa City

Hazel Seaba: Level 1, Iowa City AM

Carol D. Narak and PDG Thomas C. Narak: Level 1,

Dennis D. Drager: Level 1, Marshalltown

William B. Oglesby and Sharon P. Oglesby, Level 2, Iowa City & Coralville-North Corridor

Alan L. Hermanson and Karen M. Hermanson, Level 4, Ames Morning

Dave C. Parsons, Bequest Society Level 2, Iowa City AM

DSA, *continued*

other clubs and club officers.

"The recipient introduced the **Paul Harris Society** to the District. This initiative led to many **Major Donors** in the ensuing years, some of whom were honored tonight. The District has been a leader in the zone, recognized as ranking in the top three districts consistently. The nominee personally raised \$80,000 for **Tsunami Relief** projects (schools and micro-credit) and for fishing boats in **India**.

"Demonstrating commitment to polio eradication, the recipient has participated in two **National Immunization Day** trips, to **India** in 2012 and **Nigeria** in 2007, to two of the most challenging fronts for fighting the disease, carrying the message of polio's devastating effect through photographs illuminating the desperate need to eradicate the disease. As a speaker at several district conferences, Foundation dinners and seminars as well as zone events, the recipient has been a powerful advocate for **PolioPlus** fundraising, resulting in increased club polio giving."



Pat Olsen and Josie Cochuyt: "North Scott Rotary Adventures."



John Kuhl: Keynote at Muscatine.



Bill Koellner with Jerri Heid: "Champions for Children's Literacy."



RAG4Clubfoot

Iowa Rotarians take Ponseti Method to the world

By Tomeka Petersen

RAG4-Clubfoot

We welcome **Ralph Hammond** (PDG 7910) to the board! A life-long resident of Bedford, Massachusetts, Ralph holds a bachelor of science degree in education from Framingham State College, and a master of science degree in education and a certificate of advanced graduate Study from Lesley College.



Ralph Hammond

Ralph has served the Bedford Public Schools from 1969 to 1995 as a classroom teacher, vice principal, director of computer education, finally as elementary school principal. He has been a member of the Rotary Club of Bedford since 1990, serving as club president, was International Service Director and has been the District and International Grant Coordinator for 20 years. He was district governor for District 7910, central Massachusetts. His involvement and inclusion of students with disabilities while teacher and administrator is a special passion that continues today.

Throughout his life, Hammond has believed that learning through sharing and teamwork is what makes learning and life fun, effective and meaningful.

Developing our Strategic Action Plan 2023-2026

RAG4Clubfoot is developing its Strategic Action Plan for 2023-2026. **Steve Sorensen**, member of the Rotary Club of Bettendorf facilitated the initial activity. To start, all RAG4Clubfoot board members completed an anonymous survey identifying accomplishments, challenges and opportunities during the past two years. Steve compiled a summary of the responses which was shared with all board members prior to a retreat on Oct. 19.

Several board members (PDG **Chris Knapp**, **Dr. Tom Cook**, **Brock**



Participants in Ponseti Method training in Argentina, March 2022.

Earnhardt, Dr. Jose Morcuende and Tomeka Petersen) met in-person, while a few members joined via Zoom (**Jay Eastman, Lesley Dakin, Marcel van Opstal and Astrid Medina**). Steve vigorously took notes and captured ideas shared for future priorities.

Steve created and shared a strategic plan framework/template for an executive committee to utilize during another discussion to translate identified priorities into actions to be taken, defining by when and how.

We aim to have the final plan approved during the February board meeting.

Global Grant "Transforming Lives" Approved - Ecuador

The Rotary Foundation approved funding a two-year Ponseti Method training grant in **Ecuador**.

It is estimated 440 babies are born with clubfoot each year in that country. The project will provide comprehensive Ponseti Method training of 12 orthopaedic surgeons and the

PONSETI, continued on next page

'Iowa's Gift to the World' funding symposiums in Brazil

By **Dr. Monica Nogueira**

Rotary Club of São Paulo-Sudeste

The north region evaluation is the second of five different evaluation symposiums, one per **Brazilian** region. We check if the clinics were implemented, if they are working well, and all the indicators for a good reference clinic.

The first was in Recife, Pernambuco, for the Northeast region, in April 29 and 30, 2022.

We had a very important symposium in São Carlos, in June 11 and 12, for the evaluation of all national foot abduction braces for clubfoot.

São Paulo meeting of the Ponseti Method June 10 – 11 in Sao Carlos Eradicating (Rotary Foundation Global Grant 1638412) and orthotizing (Rotary Foundation Global Grant 1981190) of congenital clubfoot.

In 2023, three more important symposiums are scheduled:

Evaluation of South Region, in **Porto Alegre**, March 24 and 25; evaluation of the Center West Region, in **Campo Grande**, May 26 and 27, and evaluation of the Region Southeast in **Rio de Janeiro**, Aug. 18 and 19, 2023.



Participants of Sao Carlos symposium, October 2022.



Dr. Monica Nogueira evaluating casting technique during visit to Sao Carlos clinic June 2022.



Shoes made for adults with clubfoot.



Decorative pillows sewn.

Assistance for adults living with clubfoot in Kenya

PONSETI, continued

establishment of 12 Ponseti Method reference clinics.

Host clubs are **Rotary Club of St. Helena** (CA, D5130) and **Rotary Club of Quito Equinoccio** (Ecuador, D4400). Additional partner organizations include: **Ponseti International Association Latin America** (PIA/LA); and several orthopaedic societies including SEOT Ecuador.

World Polio Day 2022 and Beyond: A healthier future for mothers and children

On Oct. 22, **Dr. Miguel Paz** and **Dr. Jose Morcuende** were invited to WHO headquarters in Geneva to present a 7-minute presentation about the Ponseti Method training activities of the Global Grant approved in Argentina.

The **Argentina** training program is for doctors from seven hospitals in the city of Buenos Aires and in the provinces of **Buenos Aires** and **Santa Fe**, where 70 percent of the children born with clubfoot live.

Iowa's Gift to the World (IGTW)

Iowa's Gift to the World funding assists adults living with clubfoot in **Kenya**.

Anne Onyango, founder of Clubfoot Society of Kenya (CSoK),

was awarded funding to purchase a sewing machine and tool kit (\$1,550) to sew boots specially designed for adults living with clubfoot in Kenya.

Recently, the IGTW committee approved a request for \$754 to purchase a bandsaw to smooth the insides of newly sewn boots. Anne says the bandsaw "will assist CSoK to cut down cost in terms of travel, and we shall also cut costs on using a third-party machinery to enable us to have the work done."

Clubfoot Society will be able to take more orders in terms of those who need shoes within a week. Instead of us working on one pair for two weeks we should be able to work on three pairs complete and dispatched without much movement. Clubfoot Society will now be able to go out to look for more work thus creating space to employ one or two more helping hands who are part of the Society."

In addition to sewing boots, the newly trained CSoK members are sewing other household items like curtains, pillows, and decorative table runners, etc. to supplement their incomes.

Anne has started a sensitization campaign with Kenya rugby players expressing how it feels to get new shoes and whether they've ever played without shoes. CSoK is aiming to raise funds to pay for the specially made shoes for adults with clubfoot currently on a waitlist.

Anne is also a member of RAG4Clubfoot and Rotary Club of World Disability Advocacy e-club. She is planning to create a sensitization campaign in Kenya to raise awareness about the stigma associated with disability.

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 is available at the District website under **Vocational Service**. The deadline for nominations is Jan. 31, 2023. The nominations will be submitted to the District

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

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.

HOUSTON

RI Convention: Blown away by

By PDG Bill Tubbs/North Scott

Editor, District 6000 News, reprinted from North Scott Press, June 15

Oh, how I wish Vladimir Putin could've been there. Not that it would have made a difference to the Russian dictator, but who knows?

The presentation of flags of the nations of the Rotary world, some 200 of them, opened last week's international convention at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston.

With a musical flourish as background, the nations are introduced in alphabetical order. The flag carrier brings the flag to center stage as the nation is introduced on the Jumbotrons. It's educational, inspirational, and fun to hear delegates cheer when it's their country's turn.

The flag of Russia came and went with silence, but the assembly of 11,000 from more than 100 countries on six continents erupted in raucous cheers and a sustained standing ovation when the flag of Ukraine was presented. The solidarity of the peace-loving Rotarians was profound. I was touched to my core – but that was just the beginning.

The next day, Dr. Olha Paliycha, a medical doctor from Cherkasy, Ukraine, addressed the plenary and thanked Rotary for the aid it has already received. "Your help has saved lives," she said, but more help is needed. She ended with a fervent declaration:

"PEACE – WILL – COME – TO – UKRAINE."

*This yielded another standing ovation!
Are you listening, Vlad?*

I was able to meet Dr. Palilycha at breakfast one morning, and thanked her for her service and the powerful message. "How can we help?" I asked.

The doctor was quick to reply. "I could use 100 ambulances and medical supplies right now." Support the (Rotary Foundation) Disaster Grant. Actually, our district in Iowa has already done that, sent \$25,000 as part of the \$15 million Rotary raised in the first weeks after the war began.

And we will do more.

Long journey from Ukraine

Rotary's general secretary, John Hewko, of Evanston, Ill., whose family is in Kyiv, Ukraine, said Ukraine has 62 Rotary clubs and six satellite clubs with over 1,100 members, and 24 Rotaract clubs (young adults) with more than 300 members.

"Through our connection with them – and personal care for them – we are aware of and respond to immediate needs," Hewko said, "whether it's providing meals or medical supplies, or even delivering a fire engine and an emergency medical vehicle."

Hewko described the work of Rotarians in Ukraine as "extraordinary ... in fact, we have with us today a delegation of Rotary members from Ukraine. And even though there are no flights out of Ukraine due to the war, they were able to make the long journey to be with us at this convention.

"So could I ask that our Ukrainian colleagues to please rise and be recognized?"

*This yielded another standing ovation!
Are you listening, Vlad?*



Olha Paliycha, a medical doctor from Cherkasy, Ukraine, needs medical supplies, and said she could use 100 ambulances now. She was at the Rotary International Convention in Houston, accompanied by Brock Biermann, chairman of the trustees of European Democracy Youth Network.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

My son-in-law, Waukeean Rotarian Matt Olson, and I met these people and offered encouragement, but there is more.

'This is personal for me'

"This is personal for me as well," said Hewko. "In the 1940s, my parents, Lu and Natalie Hewko, fled Ukraine as the Soviet army advanced across war-torn Europe.

"They first landed in a displaced persons camp in southern Germany and then began a new life in the United States. And there they found a vehicle to give back when my dad joined the Rotary Club of Clarkston, Michigan.



John Hewko

"And I worked in Ukraine during the early days of independence in the 1990s, and many of my relatives, friends and former colleagues still live there. So when I see all that Rotary members are doing in Ukraine today, I'm overwhelmed with gratitude.

"The Rotary Club of Cherkasy purchased and delivered medical supplies and medicine to multiple local hospitals.

"Rotarians in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Moldova, Romania, the Baltic States and many other countries in

/ worldwide love for Ukraine

the region have opened their arms to millions of refugees – mostly women and children.

"Some members of the Rotary Club of Kharkiv International have traveled to border countries to help refugees adapt to their new situations.

"Members of the Rotary Club of Lviv are unloading and organizing relief aid from European countries, then facilitating delivery to several humanitarian hubs across the country.

Rotary membership increased

"And if you want proof that this matters, that it is making an impact in one of the most horrific warzones the world has seen in recent memory -- consider this. Rotary membership has actually **INCREASED – INCREASED** – in Ukraine since the war began.

"Think about that. These are people fighting for their lives. They are witnessing entire cities being completely destroyed before their very eyes. Often people who have never touched a weapon in their lives are being asked to defend their communities.

"And in the face of all of this, Ukrainians, having seen what Rotary has done to help in their time of need, have taken the extraordinary step of joining our organization.

"You know, it's been difficult to witness our fellow human beings – civilians – scrambling for their lives, leaving everything behind. And for what? And for what?

"But in the midst of this terror, destruction and loss of life, we see extraordinary acts of kindness, humanity and dedication."

This yielded another standing ovation!

Love for Ukraine was but one of many moments of inspiration at the June 4-8 convention. Attendance of 11,000 was about half of normal, with strict Covid protocols enforced by the U.S., and Rotary. Proof of vaccine, or a negative Covid test, were required for registration, for which I was thankful.

How wonderful it was to be together in person with friends old and new!

Human trafficking

One of the unforgettable persons I met was Crystal Chen. Her story, told tearfully in a breakout session about human trafficking, was gut-wrenching.

A resident of southern China, she was sentenced to slave labor and torture from 1999-2005, including saline solution pumped into the nostrils, water boarding, electric shock, stress positions for long hours, and worse. Organs of the deceased were harvested for sale.

For what? Because she practiced Falun Dafa, a spiritual discipline of mind and body. During the period of slavery, she was forced to make false confessions. Her mother died in the same camp.

With worldwide pressure from groups like Amnesty International (of which I am a member), she was able to escape though Burma and Thailand and was accepted as a refugee in the U.S.

God bless America!



Crystal Chen

These are people fighting for their lives. They are witnessing entire cities being completely destroyed before their very eyes ... And in the face of all of this, Ukrainians, having seen what Rotary has done to help in their time of need, have taken the extraordinary step of joining our organization ... in the midst of this terror, destruction and loss of life, we see extraordinary acts of kindness, humanity and dedication.

John Hewko, General Secretary

Rotary International

Later, in the United States, she saw some of the products she had made while in slave labor – a Snow White and Seven Dwarfs doll – sold by Disney. (I hope and pray Disney was unaware!)

The story is a wakeup call for human trafficking, which enslaves some 40 million or more people today, including in Iowa.

Human Trafficking Prevention is now an official program of Rotary, the impetus of which started right here in Iowa, including a resolution by the North Scott club in August 2020.

Last week, my club, North Scott Rotary awarded a \$15,000 Impact Grant to Braking Traffik, a program of Family Resources, for aid for victims of human trafficking.

Small steps, perhaps, but we do what we can.

Let there be peace, and let it begin with me.



At the Houston convention, Waukee Rotarian Matt Olson (l) was among many who gave encouragement and support to Ukrainians like Lars Aakjaer Vestberg who, against all odds, were in attendance.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

COVID, RUSSIA WERE SETBACKS, BUT ...

Flight to End Polio set for takeoff!

By PDG John Ockenfels/Iowa City AM

As many who are reading this are aware, in 2018 my cousin's husband, **Peter Teahen** and I joined each other in a plan to fly his single engine airplane around the world. We realized that since both of us are **Rotarians**, this would be a great opportunity to raise money to support **PolioPlus**.

At the 2019 International Rotary Convention in **Hamburg, Germany**, I announced the details of the trip. We were going to stop at more than 20 cities and our goal was to discuss the status of the polio with local Rotarians. The promise we made to Rotary was that we would pay for 100 percent of the expenses and 100 percent of the money raised would go to PolioPlus. Our goal was to raise **\$1,000,000**.



PDG John Ockenfels

For years we have used the phrase "Polio is only an airplane ride away." We chose the phrase "Stopping polio is only an airplane ride away." We were scheduled for departure from Cedar Rapids on March 24, 2020.

After two years of planning, the program came to a stop. We had to "pull the plug" 10 days before our departure because of **Covid**.

We rescheduled several times. In the spring of 2022 Covid was coming under control. We chose a new departure date. **May 5, 2023**, became the new departure date.

We planned a new route north through **Maine, Canada, Greenland, Iceland and Europe**. We were looking forward to an important stop in **Karachi, Pakistan**, where we were being hosted by the regional leaders of the polio program. From there we were going to **India, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Singapore**, then north through **Malaysia, the Philippines, Japan, and Russia** before crossing the north end of the **Bering Sea** into **Alaska**.

However, in the spring of 2022 **Russia invaded Ukraine** and banned all U.S. aircraft from its airspace. That is a massive issue for us. The **Piper Lance** airplane that we were flying could not carry enough fuel to cross the Pacific Ocean, or the Bering Sea except from Russia. Once again, we were shut down.

So we decided to get an airplane that could carry the fuel necessary to cross the **Pacific Ocean** at a different location. I sold my **Cessna 182** and Peter sold his **Piper Lance** (our original plane for the trip). Together, we purchased a **Cessna T210M**. It has modern avionics, flies 20 miles per hour faster, can fly higher over weather if needed, and it can carry the weight we need. Arrangements have been made to add special fuel tanks and radios for this trip.

Thus our **route has again changed**. We will fly as planned until we leave **Thailand**. From there we will work our way south through **Australia**, turn east and work our way up the **Pacific Islands** into **Honolulu, Hawaii**. From Honolulu, we will launch into our longest leg of the trip – a 14-hour flight to **San Diego**.

This new route will take about **three months**. We will travel approximately **25,350 miles**. We will put about **160 hours** of flying time on the airplane.

Please take a look at our website **www.flighttoendpolio.com** for more information about the trip and about how you can help by donating to **PolioPlus**. There is an approved special downloadable form that can be used to send your donations through **District 6000 HEF** (our district's 501c3) so that it can be tracked to see how much is being sent to the **Rotary Foundation**. OR, you can use the regular forms or go online to the foundation, please include "Flight To End Polio" in the comment box.

If you know any **Rotarians we should meet along the way**, especially if they can arrange gatherings with other Rotarians or dignitaries, or if you would like to help with fundraising, please contact us. johnnockenfels@hotmail.com.



FLIGHT TO END POLIO

This is the current route for the "Flight to End Polio," departing May 5 and returning the last week of July. It is subject to change due to weather, mechanical, safety or local government issues, or at the discretion of the pilots, who plan to stop for several days between most of the destinations. You can follow the flight and find information for donating to PolioPlus at www.flighttoendpolio.com.

DATE	Locations (Airport ID)	Flight Duration
1.	Cedar Rapids, Iowa USA (KCID)	950 mi., 5 hr., 36 m
2.	Portland, Maine USA (KPWM)	701 mi., 4 hr., 7 m
3.	Narsaruaq, Greenland (BGBW)	676 mil, 3 hr., 58 m
4.	Reykjavik, Iceland (BIRK)	670 mi., 3 hr., 56 m
5.	Wick, Scotland ((EGPC)	640 mi., 3 hr., 45 m
6.	Roskilde, Denmark (EKRK)	527 mi., 3 hr., 5 m
7.	Rotterdam, Holland (EHRD)	350 mi., 2 hr., 3 m
8.	Waterford, Ireland (EIWF)	426 mi., 2 hr., 30
9.	Carpiquet, France (LFRK)	311 mi., 1 h4., 49 m
10.	Lisbon, Portugal (LPPT)	727 mi., 4 hr., 16 m
11.	Grenoble, France)LFLS)	756 mi., 4 hr., 27 m
12.	Munich, Germany (EDDM)	321 mil, 1 hr., 53 m
13.	Iraklion, Greece (LGIR)	982 mi., 5 hr., 45 m
14.	Aqaba, Jordan (OJAQ)	605 mi., 3 hr., 42 m
15.	Abu Dhabi, UAE (OMAL)	1,148 mi., 6 hr., 45 m
16.	Karachi, Pakistan (OPKC)	633 mi., 3 hr., 43 m
17.	Nagpur, India (VANP)	696 mi., 4 hr., 19 m
18.	Colombo, Sri Lanka (VCBI)	455 mi., 2 hr., 40 m
19.	Phuket, Thailand (VTSP)	1,098 mi., 6 hr., 27 m
20.	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (WMKK)	379 mi., 2 hr., 13 m
21.	Bali, Indonesia (WADD)	1,058 mi., 6 hr., 13 m
22.	Darwin, Australia (YPDN)	953 mil., 5 hr., 36 m
23.	Cairns, Australia (YBCS)	905 mi., 5 hr., 19 m
24.	Brisbane, Australia (YBBN)	749 mi., 4 hr., 38 m
25.	New Calendoncia (NWWW)	784 mi., 4hr., 51 m
26.	Nadi, Fiji (NFFN)	684 mi., 4 hr., 14 m
27.	Pago Pago, American Samoa (NSTU)	714 mi., 4 hr., 25 m
28.	Christmas Island, Kiritimati (PLCH)	12,58 mi., 7 hr., 47 m
29.	Honolulu, Hawaii USA (PHNI)	1,155 mi., 7 hr. 9 m
30.	San Diego, California USA (KSAN)	2,271mi., 14 hr., 4 m
31.	Temecula, California USA (F70)	50 mi., 0 hr., 19 m
32.	Denver, Colorado USA (KAPA)	693 mi., 4 hr., 17 m
33.	Cedar Rapids, Iowa USA (KCID)	615 mi., 3 hr., 48 m
	Approximate Totals	25,338 mi., 157 hrs

(Schedule subject to change)

MEMBERSHIP

Growing Rotary with satellite clubs

By DG Steve Wieneke/Ankeny

Here is the most up-to-date list of communities that are "Growing Rotary" **satellite clubs** in District 6000 of which **DGN Dave Cook** and I are aware. This does not include what we are doing to create new potential clubs in **Wilton/Durant, De Witt and LeClaire**. I believe there may be other existing clubs that are working towards offering alternative meetings and social times as well.

Ames Noon and Ames AM clubs are considering options to form one satellite club. They have met a couple times in the fall of 2022. Contact president Kent Frankenfeld.

* **Ankeny** meets every Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. Club meets at many locations in Ankeny. Contact president Jeff Wagner.

* **Bettendorf** meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. at Tangled Wood, 3636 Tanglewood Rd. Contact is president Bryce Bowers.

* **Boone** meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at Cedar Pointe Country Club, Boone. Contact is president-elect, Lisa Cook.

* **Clinton** meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at Rastrelli's Restaurant, 238 Main Ave., Clinton. Contact is president Andrew Kida.

* **Davenport** meets the 1st Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at various meeting places in Davenport. Club started meeting in February 2022. Contacts are Jeff Wegener and Melissa Hancock.

* **Indianola** meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. at The Sports Page, 1802 W. 2nd Av., Indianola. Contact is Michelle Pandian.

* **Iowa City AM** meets the 1st Wednesday on zoom and 3rd Wednesday at 7 p.m. at Open Heartland, 3 East Benton St., Iowa City. Contact is president Allie Boge.

* **Marshalltown** meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. at Tannin Wine Bar and Craft Beer, 125 East Main St. Contact is Bonnie Lowry.

* **Nevada** meets the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. at the Indian Creek Country Club, 63012 260th St in Nevada. Contact is Brandon Sills.

Newton began the planning process in September 2022.

Knoxville met Aug. 31 at Peachtree Brewing 5:00 p.m. Starting to plan more meetings.

* **Tipton** first meeting Oct. 12, 5:30 p.m. Going to meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Contact is President Laurie Brandenburg.

* **West Des Moines** meets the first and third Tuesday each month at 5:00 p.m. at Edgewater. Contacts are Chris Nelson and Connie Bever.

* **West Liberty** meets at 12 noon each Friday at the Savor Restaurant, 100 E. 3rd St. in West Liberty. Contacts are Ken Brooks, Clifford McFerren and Bill Koellner

* **Winterset**. Madison County Rotary Evening Club, meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday, 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Cobblestone Inn, Winterset. Contact is Sarah Simon.

(*) means club is already meeting.

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?



Cindy and District Governor Nominee Designee Norlan Hinke.

Clinton Rotarian nominated District Governor 2025-26

Norlan Hinke of the Rotary Club of Clinton has been nominated **District Governor Nominee** for the Rotary year **2025-26**.

Norlan has served his Rotary club as president, a board member, as chair of the fundraising committee for the club's 100th anniversary, club Rotary Foundation chair, and general club activities. He has also served as **chairperson for the District 6000 Community Service Grant Committee** at the district level, and currently serves as the **District's 6000 Rotary Foundation Chair**, and on the **board of directors**.

Norlan and his wife, Cindy, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in September 2022. They have two grown children, Molly and Troy. Molly has a son, Lex, who is in college pursuing a joint major of Aviation and Management. Troy has two daughters, Rosalie, who is in college with an undecided major, and Aza, who is in elementary school.

Norlan grew up on a farm in eastern Iowa and has bachelor of science and MBA degrees in Business Management. He is also a graduate of the American Bankers Association Graduate School of Banking.

Norlan worked in the financial industry from 1972 until 2018. After retiring from a financial career, he is employed by Iowa State University Extension Service as a Financial Specialist. He also serves on the Project Recovery Iowa Team and administers a USDA Mental Health state-wide grant program for ISU Extension Service. He has had the opportunity to serve on numerous boards of directors and trustees at the local, regional and national level.

Cindy has a bachelor of science degree in Business Management and is currently retired. She previously worked for her parents' business, owned a business with our daughter, Molly, and until retirement worked as Student Advisor for a college.

They live in DeWitt, and enjoy Iowa Hawkeye athletics, nature, dining out, reading, and particularly spending time with family.

The future succession of district governors for District 6000: **2023-24 Dennis Drager** (Marshalltown), **2024-25 David Cook** (Boone), and **2025-26 Norlan Hinke** (Clinton).

GREATER DES MOINES

'Our small club has big goals for this year!'

By Lindsey Mathews/Greater Des Moines
Club Secretary

In the words of our club's president, Tyler Phelps, this year, "our eye is on the ball" for growth, learning, and engagement in the Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines. We aim to do this via appealing speakers/topics, lots of unique fellowship opportunities, visiting other area clubs, and of course, meaningful service projects.

In these first few months of the Rotary year, we kicked off our appealing speakers and topics with presentations from **Tyler Kluver** (former Iowa Hawkeye and host of Washed Up Walkons podcast), **Eric West** (CEO and co-founder of Music League), and **Mark Nelson** (executive director at Freedom for Youth), among others.

Reaching out to other clubs

In an effort to build relationships and learn from other clubs, a few of our members have visited other Rotary clubs in the area. So far, we have visited the **Johnston, West Polk County-Grimes, Des Moines AM, and the Waukee Rotary** clubs. As you can imagine, every club has been very welcoming and friendly. It's been great seeing the way other clubs operate and getting ideas for things to implement in ours! For example, **Johnston** welcomes new members with a yellow ribbon that is attached to their name badge. As soon as the new member completes a service project, the ribbon is removed. What a great visual representation and reminder of a big part of Rotary's mission to provide service to others.

Iowa Cubs

A few weeks ago, our club hosted a night at the Iowa Cubs. It was a great way to take in a summertime staple while socializing with our fellow club members and their friends/family who were able to join. A good time was had by all, especially the little guy who got a fly ball!

Food drive for Booster Pak

In late August, we began a food drive for Booster Pak, a local West Des Moines non-profit whose mission is to help at-risk students in the West Des Moines community schools reach their fullest potential by reducing childhood hunger and promoting health and wellness.

We are excited and energized for this Rotary year and are looking forward to building on the success for years to come!

Big goals

Looking forward, our small club has big goals for this year, including welcoming 12 new members, raising \$2,000 for the Rotary Foundation and PolioPlus, completing eight more service projects, and building up our social media presence (@RCGDSM on IG), among other things. We are excited and energized for this Rotary year and are looking forward to building on the success for years to come!



Rotary Club of Greater Des Moines members enjoyed fellowship at an Iowa Cubs game, and especially enjoyed "the little guy who got the fly ball!"



Greater Des Moines Rotarians Mark Daniel, Melanie Menken, Kate Cochran, Lindsey Mathews, Robin Nelson, Patrick Schroeder and Ryan Newton packaged 100 breakfast-for-dinner paks.

**Claudia Schabel**

Seminar will focus on Rotary goals of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The District 6000 committee on **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** invites Rotarians to participate in a Zoom seminar at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11.

DEI is a focus of Rotary International and RI President Jennifer Jones.

Rotary reflects many cultures, generations, and lived experiences, and offers the potential for countless leaders to tap into those experiences to make a difference, says team chair **Claudia Schabel**, of the Rotary Club of Des Moines.

During the summit, Claudia says we'll hear from panelists about their Rotary experiences and discuss ideas that clubs can implement to improve every member and guest experience.

Register in advance for this meeting at <https://tinyurl.com/4vshaecr>.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Questions? Claudia Schabel, 515-423-0793, or schabel@schabelsolutions.com.



Rotary night at the Quad Cities River Bandits

Club presidents prepare to throw out the first pitch at Quad Cities Rotary Night at the Ballpark, Aug. 11 (l-r): Brian Goerdt (Bettendorf), Josie Cochuyt (North Scott), Liz Zimmerman-Waldman (Davenport), and Mary Eggers (Iowa Quad Cities).

Photo by Bill Tubbs



RI Director visits Bettendorf Rotary

Zones 29 and 25B and 25A RI Director Pat Merryweather-Arges (l), of Naperville, Ill., joined District Governor Steve Wieneke and Brenda as guests of the Rotary Club of Bettendorf on Aug. 31. Club president Brian Goerdt and AG Jeff Ashcraft are at right. Watch for an article about Bettendorf Rotary in Rotary magazine! The territory represented by Director Pat includes clubs in Ontario, Canada, the U.S. states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas; also Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia. This awkward configuration occurred in 2019 when the number of Zones was reduced as a result of membership loss in North America while membership grew, especially in Asia.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

AMES

Water, sanitation projects save lives

By Glen Rippke/Ames

Club Global Grants Chair

The Rotary Club of Same (pronounced "SAH may") in Tanzania and the Rotary Club of Ames, Iowa, invite you and your Rotary club to invest in our next water and sanitation projects in Tanzania. We will seek one **Global Grant** for the water system, and another for the sanitation component.

The new projects will be in the mountain villages of **Menamu and Vudee**, serving over 4,200 people with clean water and sanitation. The new water system will be similar in design to the Mhezi I & II systems: construction of an intake structure to capture the source spring water, a transmission pipeline from the spring intake to a treatment building, filtering the water, treating the water with chlorine, and distributing the water to multiple distribution points throughout the villages.

Several large water storage tanks will be constructed to complete the system. The sanitation system will be constructed to service the schools and medical facilities. These will be our largest projects so far.

New partners

Two new partners will be involved with the Menamu-Vudee project. Undertaking the sanitation component will be the **Rotary Club of Seaside, Oregon** in D5100, and **RUWASA (Rural & Urban Water and Sanitation Authority)** in Tanzania. The Rotary Club of Seaside has done sanitation projects in several countries.

The Tanzanian government has organized all water districts into one agency, RUWASA. In the past, water and sanitation projects were all done through the district governments. All water and sanitation projects are now under one authority.

The Rotary Club of Ames and its Rotary club partners in the U.S. have completed **four water system projects** in cooperation with the Rotary Club of Same with impressive impacts on the daily lives of the villagers. Major impacts, direct and indirect, of having an adequate supply of clean water within communities include:

Women's Empowerment
More family time
New economic opportunities
Time for community-based involvement
Education
School attendance is up
Favorable learning environment with sanitation and safe water
Improved grades, overall higher performance
Peace and Harmony
Transparent water pricing – accountability
Fewer conflicts within families
Less time dealing with water issues

Community Health
Fewer cases of water borne disease
Food security - gardens and fruit trees
Personal hygiene
Economic Development
New construction of both homes and businesses
Job creation with sustainable incomes
Nurturing of entrepreneurial spirit
Environmental
Tree planting
Control of soil erosion
Water management



Kigogo villagers celebrating having water conveniently in the village.



Students filling their water containers before going home after school.

having in the daily lives of the villagers being served by these projects. Here is the video URL:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQWSS7pvpwY>

When planning your club's budget for 2022-2023 or if any funds are left over from 2021-2022, please consider supporting the water projects in Tanzania.

The Rotary Club of Ames is inviting your club to invest in the water component of this project. Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Ames will be happy to present this exciting project to your club, either live or virtually, and share all the latest details. We also have a video to share with you that illustrates the many positive impacts the water projects are

JEFFERSON

Second century of service underway in big way

By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson

Although the Rotary Club of Jefferson celebrated 100 years of service and positive impact on Sunday, May 15, 2022, the observance continues with additional activities.

Rotarians spent time April 30 planting nine new trees at the **Greene County Elementary School** playground to enhance the **Rotary outdoor classroom** there. The outdoor classroom was originally developed in observance of the club's 75th anniversary when 75 shrubs, perennials and trees were planted.

Over the next several months, Rotarians will plant a pollinator garden at the school for use by teachers. Classrooms will decide on "friendly names" for the new trees and the Rotary club will install identification signage including the scientific and "friendly names" for each of the young trees.

\$50,000 for dog park

In honor of its centennial, the Rotary Club of Jefferson donated \$50,000 of its annual charity auction proceeds toward the construction of a **dog park** adjacent the new **Greene County animal shelter**. The shelter is under construction and plans for the park are underway. Rotarian Don Orris updated the Jefferson club board on the progress at a recent meeting.



Tree planters at Jefferson, (l-r): Rotarians Thomas Laehn, 22-23 president Susan Laehn (with future Rotarian Sophia), Jim Andrew, Jon Law, Carol Durbin, Mike Mumma, John Gerken, Jed Magee, Steve Schwaller, 21-22 president Tori Riley and Sid Jones.

Photo by Craig Hertel

School supplies provide opportunities for kids

By PDG Jacque Andrew/Jefferson

The Rotary Club of Jefferson is part of the community-wide effort to provide children from financially challenged families with school supplies for the coming school year.

Rotarians recently delivered supplies and \$170 in cash to **New Opportunities** in Jefferson. Teresa Lansman of New Opportunities indicated up to 200 students needed help with supplies for this school year.

Education and literacy is one of Rotary International's seven Areas of Focus. "We're happy to help provide local students what they need for school, and we wish them and their teachers a safe and productive school year," said Jefferson Rotary Club president Susan Laehn.



Providing school supplies, (l-r): Rotarian Carol Durbin, Teresa Lansman, and Rotary 22-23 president Susan Laehn.

Photo by Jacque Andrew

Rotary's Core Values

- Fun and Fellowship • Integrity
- Service • Diversity
- Leadership Development





Members of the Marshalltown Rotary evening group supported Sebastian's family while they traveled to Iowa City for clubfoot repair with the Ponseti Method, which is a project of District 6000.

MARSHALLTOWN

Rotarians help Sebastian find cure for clubfoot

By Bonnie Lowry/Marshalltown

The Rotary Club of Marshalltown evening group had the opportunity to partner with **MICA, Mid-Iowa Community Action**, an organization which supports a local family who found out that their baby was going to be born with Clubfoot. One of our members has a working relationship with Lexi, the family's case manager, which opened up the avenue of opportunity for support.

As Rotarians, we were able to pass on information about the **Ponseti Method** to Lexi; in turn, Lexi was then able to share the information with Sebastian's family. Gaining an understanding about the Ponseti procedure helped to relieve some anxiety and generated hope that there would be a happy ending. A plan and arrangements were made for the family to become involved with doctors at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital. After Sebastian's birth, the family was ready to carry out the plan.

The Rotary Club of Marshalltown evening group was able

to support this family by providing **gas cards** that alleviated the financial stress of making the weekly trip from Marshalltown to Iowa City for Sebastian's castings and brace fittings.

Sebastian and his mom came to one of our meetings so that we could meet them. As their Iowa City visits progressed, Sebastian's mom provided us with a video of one of their casting visits so that we could see first hand the manipulation process and also the healing progress that was taking place. Sebastian is making great progress. At this time, he is only required to wear the brace during the night.

The members of the Rotary Club of Marshalltown evening group have had the opportunity to learn and see first hand how Dr. Ponseti's method for correcting Club Foot positively effects the quality of life. Without the RAG4Clubfoot, our member may not have had the information to pass on to this family and case worker, alleviating some of the family's anxiety and helping to connect them with necessary resources. Rotarians are people of action!

IOWA CITY DOWNTOWN

Birthday bags, dictionaries, medical clinic, financial aid

By Stephanie Koehler/Iowa City Downtown

Club President

The Rotary Club of Iowa City Downtown prepares birthday bags for the children, ages 2 to 15, of families who visit the **CommUnity food bank**. In each bag is a book and a birthday party for eight children, including a cake and candles, and party favors and passes to the **Children's Museum**.

Our club also provides **Student Dictionaries** for third-grade students in three local elementary schools. We are also known as the "grilling club." We have partnered with the **West Liberty Rotary Club** to grill at the **Muscatine County Fair** and we grill for **Open Heartland** events.

This year we are partnering with the **Free Medical Clinic** of Iowa City to put solar panels on the roof of the clinic. Money saved on electricity will be used to provide medical care to people in our community who would not otherwise be able to afford it.

We have won the **Iowa City Sustainability Grant** for \$10K. We are planning additional fundraisers such as staffing concessions at **Kinnick Stadium** and a gift sale of donated items. As well we are reaching out to businesses and individuals for additional financial support. This project is a win for the environment and for people in need in our community.

MEMBERSHIP

Fellowships: The hidden gem of Rotary!

By Allyson Walter/Ames

Chair, International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians

Rotary Fellowships are international groups that share a common passion. Being part of a fellowship is a fun way to make friends worldwide, explore a hobby or profession, and enhance your Rotary experience.

Fellowships consist of members who share a common interest in recreational activities (4x4 vehicles or RVs), sports (PickleBall, Scuba, Golf, or Skiing), hobbies (Quilting, Collectors of Dolls, Stamps, or Rare Books), or professions (Exec Managers, Graphic Designers, Lawyers, Editors or Entrepreneurs). And there are the ever-popular Rum, Whiskey, Gin, Wine, and Beer fellowships!

These groups help expand skills, foster vocational development and enhance your Rotary experience by exploring interests while developing connections worldwide. They also help advance Rotary's public image and identity. There are over 40,000 Rotarians who belong to a Rotary fellowship from across 150 countries.

Fellowships function independently of Rotary International by establishing their own rules, dues requirements, and administrative structure.

Membership in a fellowship is open to any interested individual. It's a great way to introduce someone to Rotary via an activity you know they are passionate about.

There are over 103 Fellowships listed on the Rotary website today. You can contact a fellowship directly by using the links on the site. www.rotary.org/fellowships

I am currently the president of The International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians (ISFR). We have over 500 members all across the world. We have ski weeks planned for Park City, Utah, Niseko, Japan, and Rocarosso, Italy, this year. I believe fellowships are a hidden gem of Rotary. I love to spread the word about the opportunities that they provide. As your District Fellowship Chair, I have developed a club presentation on Rotary Fellowships and would be happy to present it to your club. Please reach out. allysonwalter2747@gmail.com or 515.231.7349 if you would like more information.



The International Fellowship of Skiing Rotarians has 500 members and is planning ski weeks this year in Park City, Utah, Niseko, Japan, and Rocarosso, Italy. Pictured: Allyson Walter's husband, Dave Sprague, Allyson Walter, Banff Rotary Club president Hugh Pettigrew, and Murray Lott (Delta BC Canada Rotarian). There are over 103 Fellowships with 40,000 members in 150 countries who pursue interests with like-minded Rotarians. Learn more and sign up for one at www.rotary.org/fellowships

Provided by Allyson Walter



Waukee Rotarian Sue Rasmussen and Peggy and PDG Terry Geiger of Decatur County staffed the Rotary Recreational Vehicle Fellowship booth, which was one of many at the RI Convention in Houston.

Provided by Allyson Walter



The Award of Excellence

Logo for All-Iowa District Conference receives The Award of Excellence from professional peers

By Dick Huber/Iowa City AM

Richard Huber, Rotary Club of Iowa City A.M., was honored with **The Award of Excellence (Gold)** at the 28th Annual Communicator Awards for his logo design for the 2022 All Iowa Rotary District Conference. Richard is a retired graphic designer/photographer from the Center for Disabilities and Development, University of Iowa Children's Hospital, University of Iowa.

District Governors Alka Khanolkar (D6000) and **Jeff Hassman** (D5970) had a vision to hold a joint All-Iowa District Conference in April, 2022. Rotary Club of Iowa City AM and co-chair of the conference asked Richard to create a logo showing Iowa Rotary District 5970 and 6000 coming together in 2022. The logo was used in promoting the conference, the program's cover and program title slide.

The **Communicator Awards** is the leading international award program honoring talent in this highly competitive

market. The 28th Annual Communicator Awards received **more than 4,000** entries from ad agencies (large and small), digital agencies, production firms, in-house creative professionals, graphic designers, design firms and public relations firms. This is the largest awards show of its kind.

The Communicator Awards are judged and curated by **The Academy of Interactive and Visual Arts (AIVA)**. AIVA is an assembly of leading professionals from various disciplines of the visual arts dedicated to embracing progress and the evolving nature of traditional and interactive media.

There was a total of 200-plus winners out of more than 4,000 entrants. Two classes of winners were presented with the Award of Excellence (Gold) and Award of Distinction (Silver). The Award of Excellence (Gold), the highest honor, is given to those entrants whose ability to communicate, positions them as the best in the field. Award of Excellence (Gold) was awarded for the 2022 All Iowa Rotary District Conference logo

NORTH SCOTT

Projects boost anti-bullying, self-esteem

By Bill Tubbs/North Scott

A program based on a book called **"Who AM I?"** which introduces children to **Yin the panda** bear, and takes them on a journey of discovering who they are, and how they can share their unique gifts with others will reach **97 kindergarten classrooms** in Scott County.

Through the story, Yin is reminded of all of his special qualities that make him who he is. The objective is to introduce the book, a stuffed animal version of Yin along with his backpack, and accompanying workbook for teachers and counselors.

North Scott Rotarians took the project to classrooms in the North Scott district in October, and will work with the **Rotary Clubs of Iowa Quad Cities, Bettendorf and Davenport** to reach kindergartners in neighboring districts.

"This story can help kids who may be bullied learn how to stand up for themselves and communicate to others what they are experiencing and feeling," said North Scott Rotary Club president **Josie Cochuyt**, who brought the idea home from the All-Iowa District Conference at Coralville.

Iowa City Rotarian **LaDonna Wicklund** presented it at a club meeting April 29, and it was readily adopted.

S.A.V.E.

An anti-bullying project targeted at **junior high students** will be implemented under Josie's leadership, as well. President Josie met Des Moines AM Rotarian **Amy Ratekin** at District Conference and made Ratekin's program, **S.A.V.E.** (Self-Defense Against Violence and Exploitation), the subject of her Rotary Foundation Community Grant.

She invited **Amy**, who almost died at the hands of a bully at age 14, to present her program at the club's meeting on Sept. 9, and invited her back for the big **North Scott Rotary Rallies for Youth Auction**, attended by 399 on Nov. 18 at Rhythm City Casino.

S.A.V.E. empowers students to "defend, prevent and save themselves from abduction, domestic violence, exploitation, human trafficking and sexual violence" through a two-hour class. Amy's compelling message at the Auction inspired Rotarians and guests to dig deep. The Auction netted **\$83,117** for all projects, and ensured that 375 students will receive the S.A.V.E. training.

Serving youth

These are two of North Scott Rotary's outreaches for youth:

Thirty-six members hosted 300 children from Quad-Cities' after-school programs at "Rotary Adventures," **a day at the ballpark, Modern Woodmen Stadium**, where they ran the bases, rode the Ferris wheel and interacted with Davenport Police.

The club partnered with Davenport Rotarians to treat 146 children from Quad-Cities' after-school programs at the annual **Youth Harvest Party** at Pride of the Wapsi Pumpkin Patch.

Student Dictionaries were presented to 265 fourth-graders in the North Scott district.

Davenport Police thanked North Scott Rotary for their ability to serve 250 Davenport families with food for the holidays.

Support of the active North Scott Junior High **Interact students** under the direction of Rotarian **Jan Touney**.

Rotarians welcome students at North Scott Junior High at the beginning of the day once a month.

In February, Rotarians will assemble custom-made trykes for differently-abled youth. Since the program began, 51 trykes have been given, and 23 more are planned.

Funds raised at the Auction will benefit youth in many ways!



North Scott Rotary president Josie Cochuyt appeared on Paula Sands Live! (Channel 6) to promote Rotary's anti-bullying program with Yin the Panda and the book, "WHO Am I?"

Photo by Bill Tubbs



District Governor Steve Wieneke (l) and Brenda (r), at the Nov. 18 North Scott Rotary Rallies for Youth Auction with Amy Ratekin and her husband, all the way from Ankeny. Amy inspired with her message about the S.A.V.E. anti-bullying program. The auction netted \$83,117.

Photo by Bill Tubbs

WEST DES MOINES

Club provides bicycles for disadvantaged

By PDG Tom Narak

West Des Moines

For the past several years our club has provided **bikes to disadvantaged children** in the West Des Moines schools. We also provided bikes to disadvantaged children and adults in the metro Des Moines area.

Interested Rotarians can help with the bike giveaway April 29, the day of District Conference. We will fit children with a bike and helmet.

We ask people in the area to donate gently used bikes and then we repair them get to them ride-ready before we donate them. The West Des Moines EMTs donate bike helmets for our project. In addition to a bike and helmet, each person is provided with a bike lock.

Our bike repair and storage headquarters is located at member Bob Start's storage business in Clive. We also have a storage trailer provided by

Bob to store the bikes. The project began with the help of a D6000 Rotary Foundation Community Service Grant.

This spring as part of DG Steve Wieneke's District Conference in West Des Moines on April 29, we will have a bike giveaway in the afternoon at CFUM, Children and Families Urban Movement in Des Moines. Interested Rotarians can help with the bike giveaway that afternoon. We will fit children with a bike and helmet. We will also work with them as they begin to ride the bike to be sure that they can succeed.

Ukraine

Members of our club have donated funds to RI to be used for the people in Ukraine. In addition, we donated funds for Ukraine from a fundraiser. We have learned from speakers on behalf of refugee organizations about the various ways to help with immigrants and refugees in central Iowa. Some members have donated furniture, bed linens, and kitchen utensils to help relocated families.

Xicotepec

We have members active in the D6000 Xicotepec Project, and our club has provided donations to help the children and families of Xicotepec and surrounding areas as well as two Xicotepec orphanages.

Interact

Last fall the Interact Club at West Des Moines Valley High School increased its membership from three students to 10 students. The club had several fundraisers during the school year with the intention of raising funds to supply books for an elementary school library in Munga Primary School in Tharaka Nithi County located in the village Meru, Kenya. (We are working with a Rotary Club in the Nithi area to make the transfer.)

Students raised \$500, and the Rotary Club of West Des Moines matched the amount for a total of \$1,000 to be sent to the school. The club bought Christmas gifts and gift cards for a needy family with funds from the Rotary club. Several students attended RYLA in July. The club is currently considering projects for the upcoming year.

TIPTON

Projects for trees, reading

By Laurie Brandenburg/Tipton

Club President

Tree: On April 29, the Rotary Club of Tipton sponsored a tree planting service day at Tipton City Park. Over 115 volunteers, including 40 Tipton high school students, Rotarians, Tipton Lions and many other city and county residents planted 47 trees in a little over two hours. Tipton Rotary purchased the trees from the Tipton Greenhouse with \$4,500 matching funds awarded by the 2021/2022 Rotary District 6000 Community Grant Program. Donuts and drinks were provided by a Thri-vent Financial Grant.



Tipton Rotarians and community volunteers planted 47 trees.



Tipton Rotary's booth at the Cedar County Storybook Walk.

Reading: The Rotary Club of Tipton sponsored a 100 Days of Reading Program, with funding from a \$2,000 grant from BELRAG and SAVE The Children. More than 50 students registered, committing to read every day for 100 Days of Summer, from June 1 to Sept. 8, World Literacy Day.

Working with the Tipton Public Library and Cedar County Extension, the club held events which included picking out a new book, crafts and story time in June, July and August. The program concluded in September with guest author Allan McCauly reading and acting out his books "Max Sings Take Me Out To The Ballgame" and "Max Makes Pancakes" with the students. Participants who turned in all of their reading logs had their names put into a drawing for a chance to win 5 Kindles.

Books: On Aug. 5, the Rotary Club of Tipton set up a book booth and Storybook Walk at the Cedar County Health Fair. The Dr. Seuss book,

"My Many Coloured Days," was set up so children could read it as they walked around the club's booth. A total of 156 new books were handed out to children ages 0 to 18. The club was awarded a \$500 "Together We Read: Community Engagement Project" grant, funded by BELRAG and Save the Children to fund this project. This was such a successful project that the club plans to make it an annual event.

FAIRFIELD: 102 YEARS

Fairfield, Oct. 15 at Golf and Country Club. Past president John Loin presented a certificate to Larry Nash to recognize him as a Rotarian of the Rotary Club of Fairfield for over 58 years of service.



Past president John Loin (l) and Rotarian Colleen Stone (r) presented a bouquet of flowers to Rotarian Beth Alonso for years of dedicated service as the high school Interact adviser. Provided by Steve Wieneke



District Governor Steve Wieneke presented past president John Loin with a certificate from RI president Jennifer Jones recognizing the club for 100 years of service (actually 102 due to Covid).

INDIANOLA: 100 YEARS

District Governor Steve Wieneke gave Paul Dalluge, president of the Rotary Club of Indianola, a certificate signed by RI president Jennifer Jones commending the club for 100 years of service.



District Governor Steve Wieneke (first row, second from right), and his wife, Brenda, joined past and present members of the Rotary Club of Indianola for the club's 100-year celebration Sept. 22 at Salem Connection Event Center. They were joined by AG Chris Bertelsen (Winterset), front, at right, and PDG Tom Narak and Carol (behind Chris). Indianola PDG Ev Laning is second from left in row 1. Provided by Steve Wieneke

WINTERSET: 100 YEARS

District Governor Steve Wieneke presented a certificate of 100 years of service from RI to president Chris Bertelson, who highlighted history of the Rotary Club of Winterset Oct. 24 at the Covered Bridge Winery.



Jim Mease, chair of the All Inclusive Playground project, shared information about the project and the success the club had in raising the funds. The project is expected to be completed in fall 2023



PDG Chris Knapp (Iowa City AM) was the keynote speaker for the evening and provided inspirational comments on the Rotary Foundation, Polio Eradication, and his Rotary experiences.

Provided by Steve Wieneke

ATLANTIC

Full slate of spring and summer activities

By Dolly Bergmann/Atlantic

Club Secretary

The Rotary Club of Atlantic has been busy starting this spring and into the summer. In May the club held the annual **Teacher Recognition Award**. This year it had a new twist. Rather than single out one teacher, the club thanked all the teachers for their hard work. The past couple years have been difficult for everyone, but teachers had many unique challenges. Rotarians served the teachers a sweet and savory afternoon snack and then presented each teacher with \$25 Atlantic Cash which can be used in the many businesses in the community.

Employee recognition

In June, Rotarians held the annual **Employee Recognition** event. Rotarians invite employees to lunch and then had the opportunity to listen to a great speaker, Greg Giles. Greg is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and has over 25 years of non-profit experience in youth development, marketing, community education, public speaking, fund development, and collaborative services.

Greg was recognized as the **Director of the Year** for the YMCA in the state of Wisconsin, has received a Paul Harris award for his lifelong community work from Rotary and received the Don Jones Leadership award presented by Envision Greater Fond du Lac. He has served on numerous local community boards and service clubs, including Young Professionals, City of Fond du Lac Redevelopment Authority, the Housing Authority, City Council, Loaves and Fishes, Kiwanis Club of West Bend, Fond du Lac Noon Rotary and more.

He and his wife, Laura, have four children and share the philosophy, "Our time on earth should be spent making a difference in the lives of others."



New teachers, front (l-r): Allison Widrowicz, Cambry Miller, Katie York, Mary Jensen, Anna Pauley, and Molly O'Hara; back: Megan Anderson, Mikala Freerksen, Scot Aden, Derek Handel, Heath Kelley and Jill Dodson.

Saturday lunch crowd. Several other Rotarians were busy getting salads ready, washing dishes and whatever was needed to keep the food stand moving smoothly.

Also, during the fair Rotarians serve **free watermelon** to the fairgoers. After thank you the most common statement from people is "This is the best part of the fair!" Twenty-three watermelons were served in less than 40 minutes. This event has been going on for many years. You will see many adults say they have been enjoying the watermelons since they were kids in 4-H and are glad that their children and grandchildren get to enjoy it now.

New teachers welcomed

August brings another annual event for Rotary. Rotary recognizes the **new teachers** to the Atlantic Community School District. Like many districts, there has been some difficulty in filling positions, but Atlantic is ready for the students. This year there are 11 new teachers and new administrative staff. The teachers enjoy a catered lunch and then tell the Rotarians a little about themselves, what they will be teaching, if they are new to Atlantic, and some about their family.

Family picnic

August is topped off with the annual Family Picnic. This year it was held at Sunnyside Park at the Kiddie Korral Shelter. Rotarians and their families enjoyed a nice summer evening with a catered meal. This event like many others continues to grow in attendance.



All set up before the crowd starts - Rotarians Becky Schroeder, Ruth Sears, Dolly Bergmann, and Kathie Hockenberry. Twenty-three watermelons were served to fairgoers in 40 minutes!



Ruth Sears and Kathie Hockenberry pause from serving drinks at the July Fourth Flight Breakfast.

July Fourth

Before you realized it July 4th had rolled around. Atlantic Rotary hosted its "Annual 4th of July Flight Breakfast" featuring the Pancake Man. Rotary invited the public to join them for the fun local traditions. Breakfast was served by Rotary members from 7-11 that morning. Pilots from across southwest Iowa and beyond fly into the airport to enjoy

breakfast for free. The public enjoys watching planes take off and land at the airport while enjoying a meal. Proceeds from the breakfast support Atlantic Rotary Club service projects.

Cass County Fair

The Cass County Fair was July 27-Aug. 2. Rotarians and many other organizations volunteer during the fair to help **keep it free to those attending**. Rotarians helped serve in the 4-H food stand during one "shift." Rotarian Larry Hinman is enjoying grilling burgers, brats and chicken patties for the

Register for May 6 Rotary Leadership Institute

By **DG Steve Wieneke/Ankeny**

Calling ALL Rotarians. Are you looking for an opportunity to learn and share information about your ROTARY organization? If so, now is your chance to attend their next Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) educational event.

Our next course will be held on Saturday, May 6, at Shive-Hattery, 4125 Westown Parkway, West Des Moines. Seats are limited, so don't delay in registering. The registration deadline for the next course is April 30. The registration fee is \$85 per session. Many clubs offer to pay for member participation in RLI so remember to ask your club president, secretary or board if they would invest in you to support your efforts to become more knowledgeable in learning about our organization.

The Heartland Division of Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) offers in-person educational sessions for all Rotarians twice each year, usually in the spring and fall.

Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a facilitated program, not lecturing, that engages members to actively participate to learn and grow in their understanding of Rotary fundamentals. By participating in RLI, members will become more effective and knowledgeable leaders in their Rotary clubs. Attending RLI is among one of the best ways to learn about Rotary 101 basic information that you will not get anywhere to include attending local Rotary club meetings and events.

RLI consists of three separate courses, usually offered on Saturdays. We recommend completing parts 1, 2 and 3 in sequential order. Many clubs offer to pay for member participation in RLI so remember to ask your club president, secretary or board if they would invest in you to support your efforts to become more knowledgeable in learning about our organization. To register, click (rli-heartland.org) for the Rotary Leadership Institute website.



The Rotary Leadership Institute was conducted on Oct. 15 at the First United Methodist Church in Mount Pleasant, with these graduates: (l-r): Patty Munguia (Ankeny), Peggy Doerge (Iowa City AM), and John Binderup (Omaha, Suburban, NE).



Participants who attended Part 1 of RLI on Oct. 15, (l-r): Jack Bell (Northwest Des Moines), Kadie Johannson (Mount Pleasant Noon), Vicki Minor (Winterset), John Rodgers (West Des Moines), Judy Trepka (Iowa City AM), Tim Weible (Manning), Tom Welchans (Waukee), Bruce Wirin (Marshalltown), Bethany Wirin (Marshalltown), Mark Ruggeberg (Iowa City Downtown), and Tom Lazio (Ottumwa).



Level 4 Major Donors

AI and Karen Hermanson were not able to attend either of the Rotary Foundation Dinners, but achieved MD level 4 in July, in recognition of cumulative giving of \$100,000 to The Rotary Foundation. PDG Jacque Andrew (r) honored them at the Ames Morning Rotary Club meeting, AI's club, on Oct. 18.

Provided by Jacque Andrew



Facilitators who assisted in RLI educational sessions were (l-r): DG Steve Wieneke (Ankeny Evening Satellite), Wayne Steen (West Liberty), PDG John Ockenfels (Iowa City AM), Juan Arias (Ankeny Evening Satellite), Marie Pipes (East Polk County), and PDG Loring Miller (Decatur County). Also T. Waldmann-Williams (Knoxville), PDG Chris Knapp (Iowa City AM), and Brenda Wieneke (Administration, Ankeny Evening Satellite).



The Rotary Club of Burlington hosted "Touch-a-Truck" which provided attendees a chance to explore a variety of machinery. The event raised \$3,000. Photos by Craig Neises

BURLINGTON

'Touch-a-Truck' promotes Rotary, raises \$3,000

By Della Schmidt/Burlington

The Rotary Club of Burlington hosted its inaugural Touch-a-Truck event on Saturday, Aug. 27. The event was organized as a fundraiser and as a free family-friendly event to promote Rotary. The event provided attendees with a hands-on opportunity to explore a variety of machinery and trucks, and to meet the people who build, protect, and serve the Greater Burlington community.

Highlights of the Touch-a-Truck event included a fly-in of a medical helicopter, more than 30 individual truck displays representing agribusiness, construction, municipal services, and commercial trucking.

All displays were interactive, allowing children and their families to see, touch and do. Honking horns, sirens and music added excitement to the event.

The Burlington Rotarians gave away free books to attendees, and the Burlington Public Library bookmobile also distributed free books. Attendance was estimated at more than 500. The fundraiser is expected to net out at more than \$3,000.



Among the varied activities at Burlington Rotary's "Touch-a-Truck." Photos by Craig Neises

The Burlington Rotary Club has begun planning for the September 2023 Touch-a-Truck event, which will again be held in the Westland Mall parking lot in West Burlington.



DMPD Chief Dana Wingert, Senior Police Officer VanVelzen, Fire Engineer Stoak, DMFD Chief John TeKippe.

DES MOINES

Outstanding firefighter, police officer honored

By Kitte Morehouse/Des Moines

Club Executive Director

The Rotary Club of Des Moines presented the recipients of their 2022 Firefighter and Police Officer of the Year Awards on July 21.

Fire Engineer **Brian Stoaks** and Senior Police Officer **Deb VanVelzen** were recognized by the Rotary Club of Des Moines for their outstanding service above and beyond the call of duty.

For over 30 years, the Rotary Club of Des Moines has annually recognized the outstanding men and women who excel in their commitment to public safety.

Both fire engineer Stoaks and SPO VanVelzen were nominated by their peers to receive this prestigious service recognition. \$500 is donated to a charity of their choice. Fire Engineer Stoaks has selected **Child Life Blank Children's Hospital**. SPO VanVelzen has selected the **Des Moines Police Activity League- Iowa Hero Academy**.

A traveling billboard co sponsored by Lamar Advertising will also be put up in their honor.

MUSCATINE

Literacy outreach brings smiles

By AG Gretchen Nollman/West Liberty

Members of the Rotary Club of Muscatine spent time with kids at the YMCA sharing a meal, playing games and reading books. The kids we served were those either already in the **Big Brothers/Big Sisters** program or were on the waiting list. We wanted to demonstrate to the kids who have been waiting patiently that there are adults who care about them and want to spend time with them.

The evening was coordinated by Lindsey Phillips (treasurer) and her team, who knew all of the kids. Free books were donated by Rotarian Megan Francis (president-elect). Rotarians played games, ate dinner, read to the kids, listened to the kids reading to them, and got to know them just a bit. As the kids were invited to the program that evening, the happiness on their faces was evident. Lindsey told the club, "They were thrilled to know that there were adults who had volunteered to play with them! They asked if this would happen every day!"



Margaret Nuttall (Children's Librarian) and Anne Tews (Library Director) from the Bloomfield Public Library, Dorothy Hartman-Umphress and John Stookesberry from the Rotary Club of Bloomfield displaying a few of the items purchased with the grant money from Save the Children.

BLOOMFIELD

Grant boosts children's literacy initiatives

By Val Tews/Bloomfield

Secretary and Grant Writer

and Dorothy Hartman-Umphress/Bloomfield

Club President

The Rotary Club of Bloomfield was excited to receive a \$2,000 grant from **Save the Children**. The club gave this money to the Bloomfield Public Library who used it to enhance this year's summer reading program, **"Beyond the Beaten Path."**

This money from the "2022 Summer Community-Based Services Reading Challenge Grant" enabled Margaret Nuttall, the Children's Librarian, to host two special programs and to purchase a variety of prizes, programs, sets, and STEAM [science, technology, engineering, art, and math] kits.

The two special programs included **"Zoo to You"** presented by the Blank Park Zoo (Des Moines) staff and a tailored magic show by **William the Conjurer** (Ottumwa).

Among the activities was the Summer Reading Program Bingo which was offered June 1-Aug. 9. It encouraged literacy, creativity, and building relationships through reading. There was also participation in Hairy Nations Day, an insect search, and a bubbles program. An end-of-the-summer reading program party was held to celebrate the accomplishments of all of the kids with food, prizes, and the magic show.

In addition to offering the programs, Margaret was able to purchase some fun sets and kits. "These purchases filled a need at the library," she commented. Some popular items included two Lego sets, a fishing set, a campfire s'mores set, a board game called "Summer Camp" and two STEAM kits aimed at the older elementary kids (4th-6th grades).

The Rotary Club of Bloomfield is grateful to Save the Children for awarding the club one of its reading challenge grants.

MT. PLEASANT EVENING

Rotarians answer call for aid for Daycare Center

By Obalisi Gwamna/Mount Pleasant Evening

Club Secretary

The Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant Evening gathered at their regular venue on Monday evening for a special occasion. The **Mount Pleasant Daycare Center** director, Cairece Alan and another of her staff were guests at Sept. 12 meeting at the Masonic Lodge. During the meeting, Alan was presented with a check for \$500 in addition to food items collected by Mount Pleasant Evening Rotarians following a request for this aid by the Daycare Center.

Presenting the checks and gifts to Cairece Alan on behalf of the club, the District Governor of Rotary District 6000, **Steve Wieneke**, commended the partnership between the two Rotary clubs in Mount Pleasant and the Childcare Center, noting that the two clubs assembled a variety of equipment purchased with Rotary donated funds, aside from trimming bushes, planting grass, and cleaning up the area.

Cairece Alan thanked the club for its kind donations, and presented a painting and a 'Thank You card' to the Mount Pleasant Evening Rotary Club from children of the daycare center.

Steve Wieneke was at the meeting of the Mount Pleasant Evening Rotary Club to dialogue with members on strategies for growing the club and increasing their visibility within the city of Mount Pleasant and beyond.

While commending Evening Rotarians for the various projects executed by the club, he encouraged members to partner with other service organizations on projects that would significantly impact the lives of the community, especially the youth. Steve Wieneke also advised the Evening Rotary president, Rotarian Bitrus Gwamna and his board to develop effective strategies for communicating with club members, and take advantage of the **Rotary Leadership Institute** to be held next month in Mount Pleasant in order to enhance the quality of club activities.



From left: A university student (employee), Cairece Alan (Director of Children Learning Center), Bitrus Gwamna (President) and DG Steve Wieneke.



Rotary Institute reps

District 6000 was represented by these Rotarians at the Zones 29 and 25B Institute Sept. 14-18 at Mall of America in Minneapolis, (l-r): Gretchen Nollman (West Liberty, education), Norlan Hinke (Clinton, Rotary Foundation), Josie Cochuyt (North Scott, young leaders), Tim Trudeau (Boone, treasurer), Brenda and DG Steve Wieneke (Ankeny), Heidi and DGE Dennis Drager (Marshalltown), Lisa and DGN David Cook (Boone, membership), and Linda and PDG Bill Tubbs (North Scott, public image). Rotarians from the upper Midwest, Great Plains and Texas received training and met senior leaders, including RI President-Elect Gordon Macinally, of Scotland (at right).

Photo for D6000 News



Gordon Macinally

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

Dream BIG and Imagine Rotary in 2023!

By DG Steve Wieneke/Ankeny

The end of the year is traditionally a time of reflection. As we reflect on what we have done in 2022, let's be thankful for the many tremendous opportunities we have been given as Rotarians. Brenda and I thank you for your amazing **service above self**, generosity, and kindness. You have made long lasting impressions and improved the lives of more people than you realize.



Steve Wieneke

As we look forward to 2023, I encourage and challenge you to think about and then act upon what you can do to get more involved in Rotary at the club, community, district, and international levels.

A few examples may include:

Serve your local club: on a committee, as an officer, or on the board of directors.

Help plan and conduct a service project.

Take the lead in completing a district community service grant application and attend a grant management seminar.

Invite someone you know to attend a Rotary event. Remember, it is the responsibility of all Rotarians to tell our personal Rotary stories, showcase what we do, and give others the gift of serving with us. (Get your ask on!)

Serve on a district action team.

Attend a district educational event to learn more about Rotary and adopt ideas and practices to improve your club.

Register and attend one of the three District Regional Conference in April 2023 (see p. 4). These three events are shorter, closer to your home, allow you to learn more about Rotary, develop friendships, and save you money.

Get involved in Youth Service activities such as RYLA, Interact, and Youth Exchange.

Join with another club to participate in a global grant project.

Attend the Rotary International Convention in Melbourne, Australia, May 2023, to witness Rotary's global impact.

Your Rotary club and District 6000 have amazing opportunities waiting for you. It is as simple as asking leaders at the club and district level how you can get involved.

What will your personal Rotary call to action look like in 2023?

Will you be satisfied with being a dues-paying spectator, OR are you willing to **get out of your comfort zone**, expand your reach, and be an active participant in the coming year?

I encourage you to **dream BIG, Imagine Rotary and be all you can be in 2023!**



Register at
<https://convention.rotary.org/en>.

Watch for information about the District 6000 Breakfast in Melbourne, Australia, at www.rotary6000.org

NEWS NOTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the fall meeting, the CPA report of district finances was received and accepted, and, according to bylaws, the unspent contingency fund (10 percent of unrestricted general fund balance) was designated, as follows, as directed by DG 2021-22 **Alka Khanolkar**: \$5,000 (Human Trafficking Prevention), \$5,000 (Disaster Relief), \$1,000 each (Xicotepec, RAG4Clubfoot, Iowa M.O.S.T.), and \$700 (PolioPlus).

IOWA WOLVES POLIO FUNDRAISER

Ed Arnold reports the annual PolioPlus fundraiser at the Iowa Wolves basketball game will be Saturday, Feb. 4 at Wells Fargo Arena, Des Moines. In 13 previous games, \$140,000 has been raised for PolioPlus. Rotarians and friends of Rotary are invited and encouraged to attend. Contact Ed for tickets: 515-979-6215 or edarnold1945@gmail.com.

AKS INDUCTIONS

Not one, but TWO District 6000 Rotarian couples will be inducted into The Rotary Foundation's Arch Klumph Society the weekend of April 7-9 in ceremonies at **One Rotary Center**, 1560 Sherman Ave., Evanston, Ill. **PDG Bill Tubbs and Linda**, of the Rotary Club of North Scott, achieved AKS in 2021 for cumulative contributions to The Rotary Foundation of \$250,000. His induction was postponed due to Covid. **PDG Steve Dakin and Lesley**, of the Rotary Club of Boone, is the district's newest AKS member. The two inductions will be the same weekend.

GIFT

Thanks to a gift from West Liberty Rotarian, AG and District Education chair, **Gretchen Nollman**, the District Office at Pella now has a 36-inch smart TV to facilitate hybrid meetings in which members participate by Zoom. *Thank you, Gretchen!*

CIVITAS

Fifteen Rotary clubs in the Des Moines metro area will sponsor their annual **Prevention and Awareness of Human Trafficking** educational session on Tuesday, May 4, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn in West Des Moines.

KOSOVO

Rotarians in the Iowa City area hosted seven citizens of **Kosovo** in a Sister-State partnership for a week in November. Included were day-long programs focused on youth and youth leadership.

NOTES, continued on p. 40

OBITUARIES



Tom Brooke



Gordon Esbeck



Donald Borcharding

District 6000 News observes the passing of three Rotarians who provided leadership in District 6000:

West Liberty Rotarian Thomas C. Brooke, 93, died Sept. 12 at Simpson Memorial Home in West Liberty. He had 71 years of Rotary membership at the time of his death, and was a Level 3 Major Donor of The Rotary Foundation. He lived his entire life in West Liberty, where he was a partner in Brooke Oil Company. He was past president of Petroleum Marketers of Iowa. He served as Rotary club president in 1958-59 and 2010-11, and had championed a district-wide billboard program to advance Rotary's public image.

Tipton Rotarian Gordon R. Esbeck, DVM, 93, died July 25 at Prairie Hills Assisted Living, Tipton. A native of Elk Horn, Iowa, he was a graduate of the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine and a member of the University's Order of the Knoll. He was a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army in the Korean War. His Rotary service included club president, and president of the District 6000 FAMSCO (Fire and Medical Supply Company). He was a pilot and adventurer, and traveled to many countries, including Rotary humanitarian service.

Ames Rotarian Donald E. Borcharding, 60, died Dec. 19, after an vehicle accident. A native of Hampton, Iowa, he received a bachelor of science degree in agricultural business and master of science degree in the College of Life and Human Sciences at Iowa State University. He worked most of his career in banks and credit unions. He was an Assistant District Governor in District 6000. As a member of Rotary, he helped make the Miracle Park and Field a reality for Ames.

May light perpetual shine upon them.

25 years of Interact at Jefferson

Nov. 2, 2022 was 25th anniversary of Interact in Greene County. Leaf raking has been a project for 25 years. It started in 1997 with the local Interact Club, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Jefferson, raking yards for the elderly.

This year the Interact Club raked 20 yards with 37 students, 5 Rotarians, and 7 school personnel on a beautiful day.

Provided by Jacque Andrew





Rotary's goal is a polio-free world! There were 12 cases of polio in 2021 and 30 in 2022: 20 in Pakistan, 2 in Afghanistan and 8 in post-endemic country Mozambique. On Jan. 8, there were no reported cases thus far in 2023.

Encourage attendance at district-sponsored events

GOVERNOR, *continued from p. 3*

educational events, such as **One Summit, Spring Education Assembly, District Conferences**, and **Rotary Leadership Institute**.

Partner with community organizations

Over the past six months Brenda and I have encouraged clubs to partner with community organizations to complete service projects to improve the quality of lives of citizens locally and abroad.

We have asked clubs to sustain and/or improve **children literacy programs** in their communities. **Reducing food insecurity challenges** in your community has also been emphasized. During upcoming regional conferences, we are asking Rotarians and guests to bring new and gently used books to be donated to organizations in nearby communities.

In closing, take some time soon to reflect on the 2023 Rotary New Year's Resolution I have shared with you recently and develop and execute your personal Rotary call to action plan to achieve your individual and club goals in the coming year. Thank you for all you do for Rotary.

Steve Wieneke, District Governor



Opportunities!

Your sponsorships with paid ads will underwrite the cost of our two-times-a-year magazine and present your message to 3,300 Rotary leaders and decision makers. Prices: \$250 (1/8-page); \$400 (1/4-page); \$750 (1/2-page); and \$1,250 (full page), payable to District 6000. Color included. Design services available. Contact Editor Bill Tubbs: btubbs@northscottpress.com.

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NEWS NOTES

NOTES, *continued from p. 39*

INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY

DGE Dennis Drager and Heidi were attending the International Assembly with District Governors in the class of 2023-24 as this issue of *District 6000 News* went to the printer. This is the first in-person International Assembly since 2019 due to Covid. At the Assembly, RI President-Elect **Gordon McNally's** theme of "Create Hope in the World" was introduced.

RI PRESIDENT 2024-25

A Rotarian familiar with District 6000, **Stephanie Urchick**, of Canonburg, Pennsylvania, has been elected RI President 2024-25. Her aide will be another Rotarian familiar with District 6000, **Tom Gump**, of Edina, Minnesota. **Stephanie**, who will succeed RI President-Elect **Gordon McNally**, of South Queensferry, Lothian, Scotland, will be the second female RI president in Rotary's 118 years. She has been a presenter at NCPETS and the District 6000 Rotary Foundation Dinner. In 2007, she joined District 6000 Rotarians **Corliss and Jeanne Klaassen, Loring and Phyllis Miller, Diana Reed, Roger Borup and Bill Tubbs**, in a groundbreaking NID and project fair trip to Nigeria, which was led by former RI Vice-President **Tom Thorfinnson**.



Stephanie Urchick Tom Gump

SHARE YOUR NEWS

Submit news of your Rotary club's activities by May 22, 2023, for the next issue of *District 6000 News* to volunteer editor PDG Bill Tubbs at btubbs@northscottpress.com. Send text in the body of the email, or attached a Word document, and free-standing, print-resolution .jpg images.