

District Governor Chris Knapp



**Governor 2016-17
Chris and Vernetta Knapp**

Chris was born in Ithaca, New York, moved to Iowa City and graduated from Iowa City West High. After graduating from Iowa State with a degree in history and teaching certification in social studies he was for a short period of time adviser to fraternities at the University of Iowa. In 2002, while working full time, Chris earned his EMBA from the Tippie School of Management, University of Iowa.

In 1977, Chris began his banking career at First National Bank Iowa City, which subsequently became U.S. Bank N.A. During his banking career he advanced through Bank Club Director to Trust Officer. As Bank Club Director for over 12 years he developed the affinity program and managed the membership of 3,600 customers. He personally designed and led tours through-out the United States and Europe and developed over 100 seminars for its members.

Vernetta began her banking career in 1970 when she joined First National Bank Iowa City. Her career led her to Chicago, Louisville, Kentucky and back to Iowa City in 1980. Vernetta has taught banking supervision and management courses through Kirkwood Community College. For over 20 years Vernetta has been involved in church leadership roles. Vernetta, a Rotarian since 2013, received the Rotarian Spouse/Partner Service Award from the Board of Directors of Rotary International for her service and commitment to Rotary Youth Exchange in District 6000.

Married in 1990, they have two sons, Thomas and Andrew both living in Iowa City. Thomas (34) is employed by the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics as a pharmacist technologist. Andrew (31) owns and teaches at his Kung Fu school and teaches private instrumental lessons. In 2013, Chris and Vernetta retired from U.S. Bank after a combined service of 77 years. They have hosted 8 exchange students.

Chris has been active in his community. For over 30 years he has been a township trustee and clerk and has served as church trustee and moderator. He was president of Elder Services Agency of Johnson County and is currently treasurer of The Johnson County Historical Society. For over 20 years Chris has been an adjunct faculty member of Kirkwood Community College teaching banking, business and management courses.

A Rotarian for over 25 years, Chris is a charter member of the Rotary Club of Iowa City A.M., past treasurer and club president 2000-01. Chris has also been the Youth Exchange Counselor, club YEO, counselor to four Ambassadorial Scholars and the club's inbound GSE team liaison.

In 1991, Chris began his service at the district level. Asked by PDG Ken Noble, he joined the Youth Exchange Committee serving for 8 years as chair and served as Ken's district treasurer, 1995-96. Chris is currently a member of the district RYLA Committee. Chris is a member of the board of directors of SCRYE (South Central Rotary Youth Exchange) and has served on the SCRYE management committee. Chris is also involved with Rag4Clubfoot.

Chris and Vernetta are Paul Harris Society, Bequest Society and Major Donors. They have attended Rotary International Conventions in Buenos Aires, Chicago, Salt Lake City, New Orleans, Sao Paulo and Seoul, Korea. They also attended the 2013 Rotary Peace Conference in Honolulu. They look forward to attending many more conventions. Both he and Vernetta look forward to their year of service as they travel about the district visiting every club and meeting many more District 6000 Rotarians.