



# Rotary Opens Opportunities



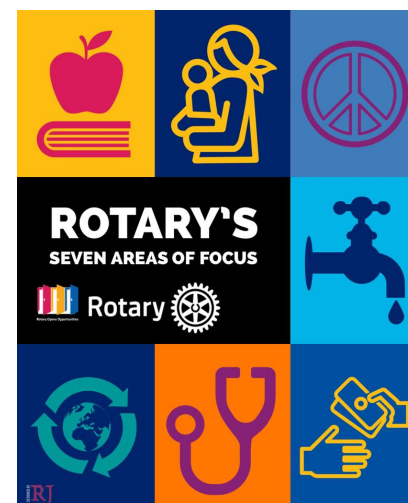
A MESSAGE FROM . . .

**JOHN FRISCHIE**  
2020-2021 District Governor

Welcome to the new District 6540 newsletter and its editor, Jane Delligatti.

First of all, thank you PDG Al Brothers for your leadership during a year of change. Congratulations to all new club officers in District 6540.

This year, supporting the environment becomes Rotary's seventh area of focus, Areas of Focus are categories of service activities supported by global grants. Environment joins peacebuilding and conflict prevention; disease prevention and treatment; water, sanitation, and hygiene; maternal and child health; basic education and literacy; and community economic development. What does this mean? It means that clubs can now apply for grants focused on the environment.



There will be more "Rotary Brand" materials to use with your tree planting, park improvement, native areas establishment, and trash cleanup days, etc. to mention a few. Some ideas for a club day or project: host a World Environment Day event, adopt a river, organize a clean-up, measure and improve air quality, monitor and improve water quality, plant trees and restore forests, connect with nature, plant a community garden, combat plastic pollution, create a native plant pollinator garden, or pick another project to improve the environment in your community. An environmental project could also encourage new members to join our Rotary Clubs. Did you know there are project-based clubs that promote a common theme like the environment? Sue and I have planted a selection of native plants in our yard and we are enjoying the arrival of the monarchs and the blooming flowers that attract hummingbirds and pollinating insects. Join with us to support the environment, the 7<sup>th</sup> area of focus.

## Opportunity for Change

The opportunities for Rotary members have never been greater and change is one of them. Our 56 clubs and 2 satellite clubs must find the way to change the way we help people in our world. Please consider all members when you attempt to return to regular club meetings. Please include an option for those who may be at risk. We need to have the vision and motivation to take on these challenges. Remember when the fad was to see how many people you could pack into a Volkswagen? Now the challenge is more serious. We must find a way we can physically distance and still Open Opportunities. **According to Ben Franklin, "When you're finished changing, you're finished".** Let us not be finished but just starting!

Please feel free to contact me at [rotaryfrisch@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryfrisch@gmail.com). I look forward to working with you.

A MESSAGE FROM . . .

**JANE ROUSH**

**2020-2021 District Governor Elect**



## **New Leadership Month**

*"To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often."* Winston Churchill

The month of July represents the month where leadership changes are made at all levels starting at the club, district, zone and Rotary International. The new President provides us with a theme to guide our year: Rotary Opens Opportunities.

What Opportunities are your clubs going to open for potential members, community improvement or global projects? This new world is making it more challenging for some clubs to connect with members and complete service projects. Other clubs have embraced the change by inviting global partners as speakers at virtual meetings and even growing membership.

District 6540 Leadership is using this changeover month to start updating our Strategic Plan by following the RI Strategic Plan to increase our impact, expand our reach, enhance participant engagement and increase our ability to adapt. We want to be responsive to your club's need so please share with me your concerns and needs for training. We also welcome volunteers to serve on district committees as we look at ways to grow membership, share service project ideas, offer interesting program ideas and increase the value of membership for all.

I can be reached at [rotaryroush@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryroush@gmail.com). I welcome your input as we change together.



A MESSAGE FROM . . .

**TIM GIBSON**

**2020-2021 District Governor Nominee**

As we turn the clock on a new Rotary fiscal year, I wanted to share some observations on Foundation giving 2019-20. Even though the final numbers are not yet tallied (we can expect to receive checks dated prior to 7/1/2020), we have much to be proud and optimistic. The Annual Fund amount is 80% of what we gave last fiscal year, however the Endowment Fund is at the level of last year AND the third category "Other Funds" that includes PolioPlus, donor directed matching grants, global grants and other approved programs like the COVID-19 initiative, has exceeded last fiscal year. Many Rotarians elected to direct dollars to the PPE supply shortage and this shows the strength and mettle of Rotarians when the need presents itself. The impact is the foundation of Rotary doing good in the world. All who serve on the District Foundation Committee express our deepest gratitude.

A MESSAGE FROM . . .

**ED VAN WIJK**

**2020-2021 District Trainer**



In last month's district newsletter, I introduced myself as your new DGND, this month I want to highlight the other position I hold in our district for this Rotary year: District Trainer. What is a district trainer? As district trainer I facilitate several training opportunities, Club Officer Training Seminars or COTS for short, Assistant Governor Training, Pre- President Elect Training Seminar and President Elect Training Seminar.

Recently we held several COTS for secretaries and presidents covering subjects such as entering club-officer information in Club Runner and how to hold virtual club meetings. These recent training opportunities were conducted virtually via the Zoom application. It looks like we will continue to use Zoom exclusively for the foreseeable future as Rotary International is advising us to avoid meeting in person during the ongoing Corona virus pandemic.

In addition to facilitating training opportunities I am also recording training videos that are available on the district's YouTube channel.

One of the things that will be helpful to me is feedback from you, Rotarians across the district, specifically please tell me what subjects of training will be beneficial to you. You can reach me at [rotarycevw@gmail.com](mailto:rotarycevw@gmail.com).



A MESSAGE FROM . . .

**JUDY WALKER**

**2020-2021 District Rotary Foundation Chair**

## Generous District Foundation Giving

Despite all the challenges of 2019-2020, district support for The Rotary Foundation remained solid. With numbers still being reported, our District 6540 raised \$275,723.00 for the Annual Fund, of which 50% is returned to our district in three years to be used for grants and district programs. This came to \$119.10 per capita, and included, thus far, 268 Paul Harris Fellows, and 11 Major Donors.

Other donations included \$47,147.00 for Polio Plus, \$266,350.00 for Other Funds, and \$146,361.00 for the Endowment Fund, for total giving of \$735,581.00. Great job, everyone!

Due to COVID-19, and the RI staff all working from home, posting of data is taking much longer than usual. Your patience and understanding continue to be appreciated, especially regarding the transferring of points.



# Breaking News!

Good news for July District Dues, there are none. Due to the changes in expenditures for our District budget the Administration Council have voted that no District dues will be charged for the first six months. The fee for club PETS training has been moved to the January billing. This doesn't change Rotary International dues but should help club budgets until January. The money budgeted by clubs for this term could be donated to a worthwhile cause or sent to the Rotary Foundation.

