



The Rotary International 2015-16 Service Above Self Award

Rotary's highest honor was presented to Jack Hopkins of the RC of Geneva.

Nominated by District Governor 2015-16 Cheryl Warren

It recognizes Rotarians who demonstrate Rotary's motto, Service Above Self, by volunteering their time and talents to help others. The award is **internationally** competitive with only 150 recipients worldwide annually.

To deserve consideration for the Service Above Self Award, a Rotarian must have performed continuing humanitarian service in any form. This award is intended to recognize especially those who actively help others through Rotary. It is not awarded solely in recognition of one's performance in an elected or appointed Rotary assignment, and financial contributions to The Rotary Foundation or specific projects are not be considered.

Prior Recipients from District 6630:

- 1995-96 - Dr. Arturo Basa from the Strongsville Club
- 2004-2005 - Dr. William Brinker from the Kent Club
- 2009-2010 - Jack Young from the Conneaut Club

Jack was nominated by District 6630 Governor Cheryl Warren and selected by the Rotary International Board of Directors to receive the 2015-2016 Service Above Self Award. The RI Board of Directors created this award to recognize those Rotarians who truly embody Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self." The Board considers this award to be Rotary International's highest honor to bestow on a Rotarian.

About Jack and his Service





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Jack is a missionary who saves babies from dying of dysentery. He has spent the last decade bringing potable drinking water to remote African villages.



He is the "go-to" guy when dealing with tribal elders and village chiefs in Africa. He has installed 11 water wells in Liberia. It is estimated that he has supervised and raised funding for 65 to 70 wells in Liberia. Thousands of lives have been impacted for the better as a result of that work and the support from Rotary.

He has been involved in every single aspect of service projects with his Club. Service Above Self is his mission in life.

He has personally raised funds for his Club projects and developed partnerships for water well and agricultural projects for Africa.

He also works with farmers in rural Liberia to help them improve agricultural productivity. A semi-retired horticulturist, he seeks the best varieties of vegetables suitable for the soil and growing conditions. He purchases the seed and equipment necessary to implement the new crops, then gives them and his expertise as a gift to the village.

Among the tasks facing him are: planting an orchard at a middle school where he has had a well drilled and has plumbed the school building. Along with another water well project in Zimbabwe. He also started a poultry program in Liberia and got their agriculture department up and running. He is involved in a project that helps victims of rape and incest in Liberia.

A totally selfless man - Jack knows the difference he can make by using his vocation and personal contacts to help save lives. He said that children who otherwise may not have any chance of surviving past their fifth birthday now have a better chance because of these projects.

Jack - we thank you for being a Gift to the World. You are an exemplary example of "Service Above Self".