



2018-2019 Newsletter

Rotary
District 6630
PEOPLE OF ACTION



Beverly Ghent-Skrzynski
District Governor

ROTARY DISTRICT 6630 NEWS

Mike Johns, Jr
Editor

January 2019

Inside this issue:

Governor's Letter cont'd	2
Grants Management Seminars	2
Save the Date	2
DG Nominee Named	3
RI President's Letter	3
Greetings From Garretttsville/Hiram	4
CAVS Night Feb 21st	4
5 Ways to Reconnect w/ Alumni	4
Rotary Alumni	5
TRF Direct	5
News From TRC Twinsburg	5
History of RYLA in 6630	6
Breathe, Just Breathe	7
Two Rotary Funded Borewells	7
Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians	7
Painesville Rotary Hits the Airwaves	8
Letter From Former GSE Member	8
2019 Theme Announced	8
Two Big Events in Nordonia	8
TRC Hudson Hosts Sports Themed Speakers	9
Letter From Father Rochette	9
My Rotary Defining Moment	10
Support Your Fellow Rotarians	10
Spaghetti Dinner Feb 24th	10
"Take Your Mark"	11
"Take Your Mark" cont'd	12
Return to Viet Nam	13
Multimillion Dollar Greenway	14
News From TRC Berea	15
BW Rotaract Fundraiser Mar 26th	15
4-Way Test Speech Contest Apr 6th	15
Nordonia Hills Reverse Raffle Feb 2nd	15
Fellowships of Rotary	16
What It's Like...	17
Two Decades of Service	17

Governor's Letter

Rotary



OBJECT OF ROTARY

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

- 1 The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- 2 High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- 3 The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- 4 The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Vocational Service calls every Rotarian to: aspire to high ethical standards in their occupation; recognize the worthiness of all useful occupations, and; contribute their vocational talents to the problems and needs of society.

Happy New Year Family of Rotary!

This month we celebrate what I believe is the fundamental tenet of what guides us in our Rotary mission; the foundation of our beliefs and our ethical standards in both our personal and professional lives – Vocational Service. Please [click on this link](#) to go to Rotary International's brochure about this important Avenue of Service – valuable information if you are a new or newer member to Rotary.

January is Vocational Service Month ROTARY'S SECOND AVENUE OF SERVICE

It is about dignity, integrity and respect - for one another; for our individual businesses and professions; for the differences in each of us and the uniqueness of our individuality; for those we serve who many times have no place else to turn. It is an ethical consciousness which gives us a barometer in which to measure the appropriateness of our words, thoughts and deeds.

It is all about our service to our youth through our Interact and Rotaract Clubs, RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards), 4-Way Test Speech Contest and Youth Exchange programs which gives each of us a path to guide and mentor these young people. The opportunity to offer programs to enhance and develop their leadership and life skills; to give them a voice when they might not otherwise be heard; to assist our youth "outside of the programming circle;" and to share our culture, our families, our

way of life and our precious freedoms. It is about the Four-Way Test that was adopted by Rotary International in 1943 and is recited at club meetings throughout our district and around the Rotary World and has been translated into over 100 different languages. From the earliest days of the organization, Rotarians were concerned with promoting high ethical standards in their professional lives. One of the world's move widely quoted and printed statements of business ethics is the 4-Way Test which was created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor (who later served as RI President) when he was asked to take charge of a

Rotary



THE FOUR-WAY TEST of the things we think, say or do

- Is it the TRUTH?
- Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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Cont'd on pg. 2

Governor's Letter cont'd

company who was facing bankruptcy. This 24-word code of ethics for employees to follow in their business and professional lives became the guide for sales, production, advertising and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of this company is credited to this simple philosophy. This year's District 6630 4-Way Test Speech contest is on Saturday, April 6 at Aurora High School. Please [click on this link](#) to go to the district website for all of the details. Winners will once again present their speeches at the District Conference of Clubs.

And it is about "Rotarians Doing Business with Rotarians," one of the founding principles of Rotary. We have made some valiant attempts in the past to develop a directory of the businesses and professions of our Rotarians within District 6630 to be accessible by our members. The article on page 10 is once again an introduction to such an initiative – voluntary in nature. Let's see if we can make this happen whereby we provide a service to all Rotarians...just one more value to membership in Rotary. Not every club can possibly have representation in every vocation, but there just might be a Rotarian in an-

other club who can offer the service or expertise you need. Because if you can't do business with a Rotarian, then who can you do business with?

There is not a Rotary club in this district that Vocational Service does not touch or is not an integral part of their mission.

Thank you to each of you.

I look forward to seeing you at the District Conference of Clubs on April 12-13, 2019 at the Cleveland Airport Marriott when we will come together to celebrate each of you.

Warmest regards,
Governor Beverly

2018-2019
District Conference of Clubs
INSPIRING PEOPLE OF ACTION
April 12-13, 2019
Cleveland Airport Marriott, Cleveland, OH
[Click here to book your room](#)



Grants Management Seminars

It's that time in the Rotary year to begin planning for next year's club projects. If you are planning on doing either a district or global grant project and plan on asking for matching funds from the District Grants Committee that planning will involve attending a Grant Management Seminar (GMS) by two or more of your club members. It is always suggested that at least one of these attendees include the incoming club president (2019-2020) and/or the president elect (2019-2020). The seminars are scheduled for Tuesday evening 2/19 at the Westlake Public Library; Thursday evening 2/28 at the Cuyahoga Falls Public Library and Saturday morning 3/16 at 9:30 AM at the Mayfield Public Library. The evening sessions will start at 6:00 PM. Attendance at one of these sessions by at least two club members is mandatory. The sessions usually last about 2 ½ hours. Other rules and regulations for receiving matching grant funds for your project will be explained at the GMS. Attendance at a GMS is required by RI on a yearly basis to qualify for matching grant funds. The reason for putting on these seminars early in the year is to

allow clubs ample time to develop a project and submit their preliminary application to the grants committee before the May 15th. deadline. Through diligent planning and effort by your district 6630 Grants Committee the last 3 years have seen half of our DDF (funds returned to districts from The Rotary Foundation) being used in district grant projects. This is very unusual in the Rotary world and represents the dedication of our Grants Committee and our clubs to be an active part of our communities.

Westlake Public Library-Session #1

27333 Center Ridge Rd. (Rt. 20)
Westlake, OH 44145
(west of Clague and Columbia Rds./ south side of Center Ridge)

Ph: 440-871-2600 Meeting starts at 6:00 PM on Tuesday 2/19/2019

Cuyahoga Falls Public Library-Session #2

2015 3rd. St.
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221
(exit Rt. 8 at Sheraton Suites exit)
Ph: 330-928-2117 Meeting starts at 6:00 PM on Thursday 2/28/2019

Mayfield Public Library -Session #3

500 SOM Center Rd.

Mayfield Village, OH 44143

(west side of SOM-north of Wilson Mills)

Ph: 440-473-0350 Meeting starts at 9:30 AM on Saturday 3/16/2019

****Evening sessions will include beverages and snacks. Morning session will include donuts, coffee and beverages.**

Bob Johnson – 2016-2019 District Rotary Foundation Chair

(H) 440-834-8447 (C) 440-384-7574
goracerbob@aol.com

SAVE THE DATE

The Rotary Club of Cleveland will be honoring Dr. William M. Griswold, Director and President of the Cleveland Museum of Art with its 2019 International Service Award on Thursday, March 21, 2019 at its lunch meeting at Windows on the River in Cleveland.

District Governor Nominee Named

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION TO CLUBS

The Nominating Committee, under Chair and Immediate Past District Governor Amy Kapostasy, met on Thursday, December 13, 2018 and selected Lawrence P. Lohman of the Rotary Club of Kent as the District 6630 Governor Nominee Designate (DGND), in line to serve as our Governor for the 2021-2022 Rotary year.

Per the RI Bylaws, we informed each club of the nomination on Friday, December 14, 2018 and allowed for a challenge period of 2 weeks. No challenges were submitted and the challenge period has now expired.

I am very pleased to announce that Lawrence P. Lohman is hereby declared our 2018-2019 District Governor Nominee Designate, effective immediately, and the forms were duly submitted this morning to Rotary International for his certification.

Please join me in congratulating Larry as he begins this very exciting and amazing journey with our District. His email is lohmanconsultants@gmail.com. Larry is truly honored to serve in this capacity and is looking forward to working with all of the clubs in our district.

About Larry:

Lawrence P. Lohman



Lawrence "Larry" Lohman began his affiliation with Rotary at a young age as his father was President of the Rotary Club of Cambridge, Ohio. The Cambridge Rotary Club has had three generations of "Larry's" family, including his great-grandfather, who was an early member. In 1994 Larry graduated from Cambridge High School, and then attended Kent State Uni-

versity, graduating with a Bachelor of Science Degree in 1999. Throughout high school and college, he was active in the Boy Scouts of America; achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. For the past fourteen years Larry has been working in the commercial and residential security field and for the past eight years he has done so with his own company; Lohman Consultants. Larry has been a member of the Rotary Club of Kent, Ohio for the past 12 years. He has served as International Services Chair, Programs Director, President Elect, and is the current presiding President. For the past 7 years he has been a member of the District 6630 Grants Committee. The one thing that always makes Larry smile is his family. Larry has been married to his wife Heather for seventeen years and during this time they have raised their two beautiful and talented teenage daughters.

RI President's Letter

Barry Rassin
President 2018-19
February 2019

In my travels over the past year, I've visited many strong, vibrant clubs and districts that are transforming their communities. When I attend their meetings, I can feel the energy. When I meet their members, I can see they are people of action. And when I look at their communities, I can recognize the impact of their work.

I've also visited communities with Rotary clubs that were hardly more than social clubs. It shouldn't ever be that way. Fortunately, there's a simple approach that I believe can help revitalize any club.

I'd like to challenge every Rotary club to come up with at least one high-impact service project. Each club already has the potential, the resources, to make it happen. It has the power to change people's lives — completely.

It doesn't take millions of dollars. One of the most transformational projects I've been a part of involved providing a Jeep to a group of midwives in Haiti. We had asked the midwives what we could do for them, and they told us they needed a way to reach expectant mothers in a remote part of the country. We supplied a Jeep, painted it pink, and put the Rotary logo on it. Three years later, we went back to see how they were doing. They were excited by the outcomes: They told us that the mortality rate for mothers and infants in that region had dropped by 50 percent.

That's what I call transformational service.

But Jeeps don't last forever, and after eight years on the road, that vehicle was on its last legs. So we bought a pink Land Cruiser. It's still on the road, allowing the midwives to provide prenatal care to women in that remote region.

What makes a project transformational? It doesn't have to involve a lot of money, but it has to reach people and have a major impact in the community. That is the key, and that is where careful planning and thorough research come in. So do your research. Leverage your resources. Seek partnerships that can increase your impact. And then take action.

Of course, service is only part of what a strong club must offer. It must also have good speakers, provide leadership development, involve Rotaract and Interact, and bring value to its members and reasons to participate in Rotary events.

If your club is transformational and well-organized, everything else will follow. Members will be engaged, and new members will be eager to join you. Fundraising will be easier: People love to give when they see how their money is making a difference and when they know the organization is accountable. Your club will be vibrant, relevant, and alive — and it will be the inspiration to those within its ranks as well as to the community it serves.

Greetings from Garrettsville-Hiram

So much has happened since I last left off. The big news is also big in size. As I had mentioned last month, I had a gazebo to move. Well not just me. It takes a community.

Let me give you some background. Last summer the YMCA in town had mentioned that another YMCA was closing and was offering their equipment to ours. I went up to aid in moving the handicap-accessible playground equipment along with other people from the village.

After spending a day disassembling stuff I inquired about other things they had. We were already loading a half dozen picnic tables. So I asked about the gazebo that sat in the front lawn. Long story short, I looked at it...I wanted it. I knew it could be done, but would require another trip and a lot more effort.

We came back and discussed it with our club, and others talked with the Village Council. That created a buzz and helped to inspire people to talk with other people to find a way to move this gazebo, which was over 11' wide.

We found through Kim Curry, head of the Y here in town, that by discussing our goals with anyone that listened, we could find a solution. We found a trucking company that specializes in moving wide loads right in town who was willing to move it for us!

It took all day. These guys are really good. Thanks to everyone at Shippers Highway Express! Now the vil-

lage has a beautiful gazebo located on the south side of the falls in downtown.

In other Rotary news, through many members' efforts, Santa delivered presents to local children's homes. We have aided Santa for over forty years with any donations received benefitting our local charity, The People Tree. This year included an elf from the Czech Republic!



This concluded an incredible year for our club.

I'm excited to report that I will serve again as President to our Club in 2019-2020. I have a lot of projects and goals in mind.

Wish me luck!

President of Garrettsville-Hiram
John D. Crawford



"CAVS Night For Rotary" Do Not Miss It!



The CAVS, an exciting young team, and, The Rotary Youth Exchange students!

Come watch Larry Nance Jr, Collin Sexton and the rest of the CAVS team on February 21, 2019 at 7 pm against the Phoenix Suns.

We have some great lower level seats – Section 117-rows 11, 12 and 13, for our Rotary and Rotary Youth Exchange game. We will also have a pre-game reception for the exchange students at The Cleveland Bar and Grille, only a block from the "Q" Arena. In addition, food, fellowship and many raffle and door prizes. As a special treat, we will be the "High five" tunnel when the teams return at half time.

A great deal to see the CAVS and greet our exchange students Be sure to sign up soon for a great night at the "CAVS" game.

Any questions, call Stew at 330-607-1442.

Rotary & RYE Night	
Pregame Reception at The Cleveland at 5:00pm	
Cavalliers vs. Phoenix Suns	
Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 7:00pm	
 	
Reception at "The Cleveland" with Food and Raffle 834 Huron Road, Cleveland, OH 44115 Next to Panini's at East 9th & Prospect	
To order tickets, send check or money order to: Rotary District 6630, 73 Lake Front Drive, Akron, OH 44319	
Any questions call Stew at: (330) 607-1442	
ONLY 60 TICKETS AVAILABLE - ORDER SOON	
NUMBER TICKETS _____	LOWER LEVEL SEC.117 ROWS 11-13 @ \$55.00 EACH \$ _____
NUMBER OF FOOD TICKETS _____	@ \$12 EACH _____ \$ _____
TOTAL DUE \$ _____	
MAKE CHECKS OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: ROTARY DISTRICT #6630	
NAME _____	
ADDRESS _____	
CITY _____	STATE _____ ZIP _____
DAY PHONE(_____) _____	CELL(_____) _____
E-MAIL _____	

5 ways to reconnect with alumni in 2019

Celebrating alumni, and making them feel welcome to your club, is something you can and should do year-round. Here are five events Rotarians organized last year that can encourage you to think of ways you can reconnect with alumni in the new year.



Rotary Alumni

As many of you know, Governor Beverly asked me to start an effort this Rotary year to better connect with our district's alumni. These include individuals who have experienced Rotary through various programs like Interact, Rotaract, Youth Exchange, RYLA, Peace Fellows, Ambassadorial Scholars, Group Study Exchange, etc.

My first order of business has been to gather data. Thanks to those of you who responded to my first request. However, I am sure many of you have contact information that could be added to our database. If you would, please, share that information with me, I would sincerely appreciate it.

Please e-mail that information to me at: deb.boerger@gmail.com. The most important information would be e-mail addresses and current city.

This is just a first step of doing a better job of engaging those whose lives have been significantly touched by Rotary. As the year unfolds, I will keep you informed of the progress we make in engaging and re-engaging these folks in the family of Rotary.

Thank you,

Deb Boerger, Rotary Club of Cleveland
2018-19 District Alumni Chair

Cell: 216-409-9925

ROTARY DIRECT
Rotary's recurring giving program

ROTARY DIRECT SAVES...

- Time – Sign up once to give continuous support
- Money – Lower administration costs means more money for programs
- Lives – Give to The Rotary Foundation to do good in the world

DOING GOOD JUST GOT EASIER!

Enroll online: www.rotary.org/give

OR Mail: Rotary Direct 10420
Rotary International
One Rotary Center
1500 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201-3038 USA

OR Fax: +1-847-328-5260
Please call to modify your existing Rotary Direct contributions
Phone: +1-847-374-6277

IF YOU ARE A ROTARIAN, PLEASE COMPLETE:

Rotary membership ID _____
Club name _____
Club number _____
Billing address _____
City _____ State/Province _____
Postal code _____ Country _____
Phone _____
Email _____

Contributions are tax deductible where allowed by law. For security purposes, please do not send credit card numbers or email.

*Please the first name, last name, address, phone and email on each card to the Rotary Club of Cleveland, 1500 Sherman Avenue, Evanston, IL 60201-3038 USA or to your nearest Rotary office.

GIFT DESIGNATION (choose one)

<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Fund 144RE	<input type="checkbox"/> PolioPlus Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Promoting Clean Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Fostering Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Saving Mothers and Children
<input type="checkbox"/> Promoting Peace	<input type="checkbox"/> Growing Local Economies
<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

RECURRING GIFT AMOUNT (minimum US\$10)

☐ \$25 ☐ \$45 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other _____

Currency (if not US\$): _____

FREQUENCY

☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Annually (specify month) _____

CHECKING ACCOUNT: please attach a voided check
Available for U.S. and Canada bank accounts only – not available online

CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

Card number _____
Expiration _____
CVN _____

Signature _____

News From TRC Twinsburg

Twinsburg Rotary and Interact Bring Christmas Cheer to Many

On Sunday December 16, the Rotary Club of Twinsburg and Twinsburg High School Interact embarked upon an 11-hour gift delivery marathon while assisting the Twinsburg Fire Department in their annual Santa's Gift Run. Two crews, three Santa's, 14 elves and 12 other support personnel hit the streets of Twinsburg and delivered over 600 gifts in approximately 270 stops. Besides the December 16 delivery of gifts which were pre-purchased by parents, Interact again stepped up to assist our club on the following Saturday.



Twinsburg Fire Department, Rotary and Interact volunteers prepare for departure.

Twinsburg Rotary again partnered with the Twinsburg Fire Department to bring some much needed holiday cheer to a community resident and her children. As the family could not make the original date due to a chemotherapy appointment, a special surprise run was set-up especially for them, with the club working with a close relative to purchase personalized gifts for the kids and their mom. The plan was put in place in less than 24 hours and the family was truly surprised and very grateful.



Extra special delivery!

Twinsburg Rotary Teams with Twinsburg Fire in CPR Training Event

The Rotary Club of Twinsburg is again partnering with the Twinsburg Fire Department, University Hospitals, and Twinsburg CERT on their annual Community Wide CPR & AED Training. The event will be held on Sunday, February 10 from 8:30a-3:00p at the Twinsburg Community Center, located at 10260 Ravenna Rd, Twinsburg 44087. TFD and UH instructors will instruct two courses at once: CPR/AED Awareness for Non Health Care Provider (\$10.00 – No American Heart Certificate) and CPR/AED for Healthcare Providers (\$25 – Issued American Heart Association card). Sessions begin at 8:30a and noon, all proceeds benefit the Twinsburg Fire Department Equipment Fund, which is used to replace community training items, such as CPR mannequins. The training is open to all fellow Rotarians.

Register at:

www.squareup.com/store/rotary-club-of-twinsburg/

Twinsburg Fire Department
Presents

February is American Heart Month

Community CPR & AED Training
Sunday, February 10
Twinsburg Community Center
10260 Ravenna Rd., Twinsburg

**Two Sessions: 8:30am - 11:30am
12:00pm - 3:00pm**

\$10.00 – CPR/AED Awareness for Non-Health Care Provider (issued city certificate)

\$25.00 – CPR/AED for Health Care Provider (issued American Heart Association card)

***Registration / Pre-Payment Required**
To register, please visit www.squareup.com/store/rotary-club-of-twinsburg/
Deadline: Tues., February 5

Our Community Partners

All proceeds to benefit the Twinsburg Firefighters Association Equipment Fund

The History of RYLA in District 6630

Edward G. Thomas
Rotary Club of Cleveland
Historian, Rotary District 6630

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards program has been operating in District 6630 for almost 30 years, but the program goes back much further within the Rotary world. According to RI, the beginning of the program dates back to 1959 in Australia, when a member of the British Royal Family, Princess Alexandra of Kent, visited Queensland to celebrate the centennial of the establishment of Queensland as a separate state within the Commonwealth of Australia.

Because Princess Alexandra was in her early 20s, the local planning committee for the centennial wanted to offer activities that would appeal to her age group. It was decided that a youth festival based on the aboriginal idea of "Gundoo" or "Fun Together" was what was needed. The festival proved to be very popular with those in the 17-23 age group. The governor of Rotary District 260 in Australia saw the potential for using the "Gundoo" idea to create an annual youth program, and the RYLA program became an official Rotary project in Australia in 1960. Soon thereafter, the framework for the RYLA program was developed jointly in Australia by Districts 258 and 260. The overall mission was to train youth ages 14-30 in character, leadership, personal development, and good citizenship. Over the next few years, RYLA expanded to all districts within Australia, and RYLA was approved as an official Rotary International program at the 1971 RI Convention in Sydney, Australia.

According to RI's RYLA Handbook, the program can be run at the club, district, or multidistrict level, though most programs occur at the district level, as is the case in District 6630. Although each district can develop its own operational guidelines, RI states that all RYLA programs have the following objectives:

- To demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth

- To encourage and assist young people in responsible and effective voluntary youth leadership by providing them with a valuable training experience

- To foster continued and stronger leadership of youth by youth

- To publicly recognize the many young people who are rendering service to their communities as youth leaders

In District 6630, the RYLA program dates back to 1991. According to 1990-91 DG Robert Jackson, the opportunity to introduce RYLA to the district came as a result of a visit by some friends from California. They came to Cleveland after stopping off in Chicago so their daughter could participate in a RYLA program there. DG Jackson really liked what he heard about the program, so he instituted it that year in District 663 (which was renumbered as District 6630 on July 1, 1991).

According to articles by District 6630 RYLA Chair Marc West that appeared in the March 2014 and April 2017 issues of the District 6630 Newsletter, DG Jackson (RC of Garrettsville-Hiram) was joined in the planning for the RYLA program by Rotarians Rich Humphries (RC of Akron) and Lyle Pohly (RC of Hudson). Says Marc, "It was determined that, due to its remote setting and centralized location for clubs in the district, Hiram College would be an ideal location for the camp. Thus, the three met with Hiram College's Dean of Students, Stuart Tennant, to discuss this collaboration. In June of 1991, the first RYLA Camp was held at Hiram College from June 16-21,

1991." The program was later shortened to five days.

At the time of the founding of the program in 1991, Marc West was a staff member in the Residential Education Department at Hiram College, and he was named as the on-site director for the program. Dr. Bob Jackson served as chair of the District RYLA Committee from 1991-1997, and he continued to serve on the committee until 2011. Lyle Pohly served on the committee from 1991-2008 and had the primary responsibility of arranging the speakers for the program. Beginning in 1997, Dan Sveda (RC of Akron) served as the chair of the District Committee until 2011.

Marc West, who is now the dean of first-year students at Baldwin Wallace University, assumed the chairmanship of the RYLA Committee in 2011, and he continued as the on-site director through 2015. During the summer of 2012, RYLA was moved to Baldwin Wallace University from Hiram College to meet the need for different accommodations at more reasonable pricing. David Vale, assistant director for first-year experience and family programs at Case Western Reserve University, has been the program's on-site director since 2016.

To date, approximately 1,200 students have attended RYLA camps in District 6630, and more than 120 staff members have participated as speakers, counselors, and trainers. RYLA Camp for 2019 will be held June 9-13, 2019, at Baldwin Wallace University. For more information, contact RYLA Chair Marc West by phone at (440) 826-3483 or by email at mwest@bw.edu.

District 6630 Newsletter Policy

**Submit story suggestions to Mike Johns, Jr.
at stonecut@sbcglobal.net.**

We accept article ideas about club and district successes, including fundraisers, publicity efforts, service projects, and membership drives. Please include descriptions, high-resolution photos, and contact information in your email. Due to the high volume of submissions, we cannot promise to feature your story.

**PLEASE USE "ARTICLE FOR DISTRICT NEWSLETTER"
IN THE SUBJECT LINE**

Breathe, Just Breathe

Friday night, several Aurora High School Interact students volunteered at Breathe at Holy Angels Church in Bainbridge.



BREATHE is a program that provides respite care for children with special needs, over the age of 2, along with their siblings. All children will enjoy a supervised evening of food and fun, while parents and caregivers enjoy a night to relax. During the 3 hour event, children enjoy fun activities such as arts and crafts, games, yoga, therapy dogs, and special entertainment.



Each child attending (called a buddy) is paired up with a volunteer for the evening. Breathe is staffed with doctors, nurses, and many professionals experienced in working with children that have special needs. Breathe is a peanut free environment and close attention is given to understanding the needs of those attending



Two Rotary-Funded Solar Borewells Commissioned in Nigeria



The photo shows a ribbon cutting at a new solar-powered water well at Nzerem, Imo State, Nigeria. It was my privilege to represent the Rotary Club of Nordonia Hills and Rotary District 6630. The people of Nzerem were joyful and fun. Previously they walked several hours each way, each day for water. Now safe drinking water is available in their village. It was life changing for the people of Nzerem. Earlier, I was at a similar ceremony for the other new solar-powered well in Umuota.

Funding for the two wells was provided by the Rotary Club of Nordonia Hills (Ohio), the Rotary Club of Ukwunwangwu (Nigeria), Rotary District 6630, the Rotary Foundation, and Ozioma. It was great treat to meet my Rotary brothers and sisters

from the Ukwunwangwu Rotary Club and missionary Teresa Thomas of Ozioma.

PP Robin Bugenske of the Rotary Club of Nordonia Hills did a masterful job fund raising for this project, planning the well design and sustainability plan, and administering the global grant to assure that the project was properly designed and that all the requirements of the Rotary Foundation were fulfilled.

At the request of the Ukwunwangwu Rotary Club, DG Kola Sodipo of District 9110 arranged for Club President Biodun Bello to meet my flight at the Lagos airport and escort me from the international terminal to the domestic terminal to catch the flight to Owerri. In addition, DG Sodipo called at the Lagos airport to welcome me to Nigeria. On the trip home, Bello met my flight from Owerri and took me to the international terminal to catch the flight to home.

The red ribbon being cut in the photo is the result of a Girl Scout initiative at St. Barnabas School in Northfield, OH, that donated funds to Ozioma for this project. Each student at the school signed one side of the ribbon that I brought to Nzerem. Villagers, young and old, lined up and enthusiastically signed the other side. Once it was cut at the ceremony, one half was retained by missionary Teresa Thomas in Nigeria and the other half brought back to St. Barnabas. What fun!

Fellowship of Scouting Rotarians

As a reminder, for those Rotarian's and Rotary Club who are involved in Scouting, the following Certificates for our Scouting Young people is available from the Fellowship of Scouting Rotarian's.

BSA Boy Scout Eagle Scout Certificate

Sea Scout's BSA Quartermaster Award Certificate

GSUSA Girl Scout Gold Award Certificate

Scouts Canada Queens Venturer Certificate

Scouts Canada Chief Scouts Certificate

Girl Guilds of Canada Chief Commissioner's Gold Award Certificate

In addition, for those Rotarian's who qualify, there is the Cliff Douhterman Award. For more information on these awards or if you would like to join this Rotary Fellowship, please feel free to contact PDG Jack A. Young, Fellowship of Scouting Rotarian's CHAIR 2018-19 InterAmerican Region (North, Central and South America) Jack1villa@aol.com or 440-759-4000.

Painesville Rotary Hits the Airwaves

Painesville Rotarians, Sue & Bob Fratino, are very humbled and honored by those who served in our Armed Forces, those who currently serve our Country in the military, as well as our Safety Forces who serve and protect us every day. So much so, they host a local radio program titled "They Sacrificed for Us", which airs every Tuesday evening at 8:00 pm on WINT in Willoughby at 101.5 FM, 1330 AM, and streaming live at WINTRadio.com. The show focuses on Veterans issues and topics, and quite often, Sue and Bob conduct interviews with those men and women who proudly served our great Country.



Since March of 2017, Sue and Bob have interviewed one of the renowned pilots with the Tuskegee Airmen, a World War II veteran who helped free a concentration camp, and earned his Associates Degree at age 88. They also interviewed a Marine who served in Vietnam who risked his life to save his comrades, and by so doing, was awarded the Navy Cross (the 2nd highest honor for bravery in combat next to the Medal of Honor). And in November, they interviewed the last living Marine to receive the Medal of Honor during

the Battle of Iwo Jima in World War II.

During the month of December, Sue and Bob focused on organizations that have a positive impact on our community, and without question, Rotary is one of those organizations. Guests on their December 4th show were District Governor Beverly Ghent-Skrzynski, as well as the Rotary Club of Painesville's President, Dan Garry and Secretary, Eileen Cicero. The conversation focused on the history of Rotary in Northeast Ohio (and what a great history we have) as well as Rotary's wonderful initiatives, both locally and worldwide.



Beverly, Dan and Eileen also gave their personal perspectives of what Rotary means to them as well as their "Rotary Defining Moment". Bob and Sue's listeners, who mostly have connections to our veterans, gained a new perspective of service to our country, as well as humanity.

To listen to the entire interview please click on the following link, <http://99.105.85.96/welw/They%20Sacrificed%20For%20Us/181204TS4U.mp3> or go to WINTRadio.com to listen to this show as well as all of their archived shows.



2019-20 presidential theme: *Rotary Connects the World*

Rotary International President-elect Mark Daniel Maloney explained his vision for building a stronger Rotary, calling on leaders to expand connections to their communities and to embrace innovative membership models. A member of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama, USA, Maloney unveiled the 2019-20 presidential theme, *Rotary Connects the World*, to incoming district governors at Rotary's annual training event, the International Assembly, in San Diego, California, USA.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Letter From a Former GSE Member

Dear Jack and Marsha

"Hope everything is well with you. There is great news from our GSE Team. One of our team members Ashley, got married last October. I was lucky to be invited in her family ceremony as a bridesmaid. After ten years, our GSE team is still connected to each other. Our team leader, Steven, put a lot of effort in networking with us. Right now, we still meet up several times throughout a year. Also, I sometimes thank about the places you took me in Medina. I really appreciate it. Wish you a great 2019."



Best,
Joyce Huang
Yilan County, Taiwan

Note: Its great that Rotary and the Rotarians of our District had such a great impact on these young people from throughout the world. A special thank you to all who were involved.

Two Big Events in Nardon Hills

Join us on February 2nd at 6:00 p.m. at the Birchwood Banquet Center in Northfield for our Annual Reverse Raffle. This event raises funds for numerous causes for students in our school system. This year, we will also need funds to match a \$2,500 District Grant in order to purchase 18 Chromebooks for Rahab Ministries, a safe house in Summit County for victims of human trafficking. For tickets, \$75 pp, contact fikebuilders@windstream.net.

Help us celebrate our 40th Anniversary!! We will gather on April 30th at 6:30 p.m. at the Twinsburg Hilton to celebrate this amazing accomplishment. We are fortunate to have 3 Charter Members still actively involved with our Club who will be chairing this momentous event. Email di-anacolavecchio@gmail.com to be added to list of attendees.

TRC Hudson Entertains Sports Theme Speakers

The Rotary Club of Hudson led off their current focus on regional sports with an update by Bob Dibiasio, Senior Vice President Public Affairs with the Cleveland Indians who provided a positive outlook for the 2019 season and discussed some of the significant changes occurring in major league baseball. You can view his presentation on HCTV channel 1021 or YouTube Rotary of Hudson.

The first meeting in January featured Ben Curtis, local retired PGA tour golfer who won the 2003 British Open and helped win the Valhalla Ryder Cup for the USA. Ben revealed his secrets to succeeding in golf and described his new Golf Academy associated with the Country Club of Hudson. He expects his students to build mental toughness, learn course management and adopt good nutrition habits. Ben and his wife Candace are also growing their Family Foundation to benefit needy Kent school children providing "Birdie Bags" of food and a "Very Merry Dinner" at holiday time. Please enjoy his presentation on HCTV channel 1021 or YouTube Rotary of Hudson.

Sports personalities will be featured throughout the remainder of January as follows:

January 16---Larry Williams, Athletic Director, University of Akron.

January 23---Hudson High School Athletic Director Michael Chuppa with four seniors discussing the stresses and successes of being student athletes.

January 30---Ken Babby, Owner and CEO, Akron Rubber Ducks

Community members interested in learning more about Rotary are welcome to attend a complimentary breakfast any Wednesday at Laurel Lake from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. by contacting Rich Warfield at rwarfield@warfieldcompany.com.

Check out current Rotary activities, speakers and community projects at www.rotaryhudson.org and Facebook.



Dear Friends,

It was midnight when Jesus was born.
It was dark.

It was cold.

There was starkness, a full poverty of circumstance and setting.

But love was never more present than that night, and its light would now brighten darkness, cold and poverty until the end of time.

The angels sang this news in jubilation, the stars danced wildly on hearing it, kings fell to their knees in reverence.

Here in St. Damien Hospital, every evening at 11 pm, I make the slow trek to my room for the night, pausing to look at the suffering children, to offer some small prayers, to comfort a crying child, all the while taking in the wonders before me.

Some moms are sleeping on a banana leaf mat on the hard floor, with their children cradled in their arms.

For sicker children, the moms sleep on stiff chairs, in the ready position of vigilance and fast response to the slightest cry. Their arms reach through the bars of the cribs, with hands resting reassuringly on their baby. Their faces and limbs bear creases made by unrelenting furniture. Their brows bear creases forged by worry and compassion.

For the sickest children, the moms forgo sleep altogether. They are as close to the crib as a body can be, their small tattered bibles are open to the pages of supplication, they are singing soft and doleful melodies, and waving their hands in prayer.

Never could love be more present. The same light of Christmas love abounds in poverty and darkness, twenty centuries after the very first Christmas.

Before sunrise, when I follow the same path downstairs to start a new day, there are often empty cribs. Too many empty cribs.

One is already too many.

I will see these children very soon in the chapel, in small coffins. Here, the

sun too often rises on death. We thank God for the children around the world who are healthy, who know the love of a secure family, whose memories of Christmas are lovely trees, peaceful music and the bliss of presents, who have never known hunger. I was one of those children. Thankfully, there are many.

But at Christmas, we also pause soberly to remember how many children in the world know the Christmas of the Christ Child. They are born far from home, and in raw conditions. They are born surrounded by the killings of the innocents, by cruel and jealous kings. They are seeking exile to be safe and protected, only to end up estranged, in a land of slavery. Across the earth, very tragically, their name is legion.

At Christmas, we renew the celebration of life, the marriage of humanity and divinity in one tiny child, and the new and glorious destiny this makes possible for the whole human family.

In this joy, we commit ourselves to the children who are poor, who are sick, who are lost and exiled, whose companions are the cold and the darkness. We want to bring them goodness and light, health and peace.

At Christmas, all of us at St. Damien Hospital, and Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos around the world, want to thank you.

Thank you for being light in the darkness. Thank you for bringing warmth to the cold. Thank you for lifting the burden of poverty. Thank you for decorating starkness with the vibrant colors of the gift that you are to the world. Thank you for supporting the thousands of children in our care.

Merry Christmas! God help us to be the peace on earth and good will toward all that we so desperately need and seek.

Fr. Rick Frechette
President, Board of Directors
Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos Haiti

My Rotary Defining Moment

By Chelsea Arnold Talty

I feel like Rotary has been there for me for as long as I can remember. I was first introduced to it in high school, when one of my teachers casually asked me one day if I was interested in helping to start a club based on doing volunteer work in our community. I said, "sure!" and my life has never been the same since.

As a high school student, I learned what Rotary was after I helped start the Interact club. I attended occasional meetings of our sponsoring Rotary Club, I volunteered at community events, and I helped raise money for many worthy causes. But it wasn't until college when I truly began to understand the scope of Rotary on a global scale. As a Freshman at Hiram College, I helped form the Rotaract Club there and even became its first president. I worked with Roger Cram and many others on different projects throughout my time there. During my Sophomore year, I was able to travel to Chinandega, Nicaragua on the Children of the Dump trip. I handed out shoeboxes to children there, and this became my first "defining moment." It was on this trip that I knew how special Rotary could be, and it was then that I decided that I wanted this to be a part of my life beyond college.

However, it was several years later that I had my true "Rotary Defining Moment." Once I graduated from Hiram, I was lucky enough to secure a teaching position at West Geauga High School, where I had graduated from just a few years prior. The Interact Club that I had helped start was experiencing a decline, and I offered to help the person in charge of the club. Together, we worked to get membership back up and to provide as many volunteer opportunities to the students as possible. The next year I took over as the advisor of the club, and membership began to climb steadily. I had an especially dedicated group of students in 2012, and when I heard that Arne van der Heyde was organizing an event for members of neighboring Interact clubs to come together to meet I knew we could not pass it up. We attended the very first "Interaction," and though

there were only a few students present, I realized then that this could be a spectacular opportunity for our students to shine.

Several years later I was offered the chance to host the "Interaction" at West Geauga. I presented this to my students, and they were all so excited. My defining moment came after watching them pour their hearts into this event, determined to make it something truly spectacular. They came up with a theme, ice breakers, an agenda, and speakers. They coordinated with both adults and other students. They spent countless hours preparing for this event. And when the day finally arrived, I watched my students sit with the others talking about the world's problems and their ambitious plan about how they could solve them. And at that moment, I knew they could solve them... if only we let them.

That was my moment. And as I have watched them at each Interaction since then and at many events in between, I have seen them begin to tackle just a few of the problems they talked about that year. These kids have given thousands of books to children in need, donated thousands of shoes to people in Africa, and spearheaded a collection that raised over \$30,000 for an International Grant to rebuild a library in St. Thomas for their fellow students. They are beginning to collect items to make care packages for local foster children. They are the future of Rotary, and they are the future of our world. And that was my Rotary Defining Moment - witnessing first-hand the power of our Interactors and seeing exactly how much they can accomplish when given the support they need.

Support Your Fellow Rotarians

The Vocational Committee is advocating that Rotarians support fellow Rotarians when looking for purchases of goods or services. We need to help protect one another's businesses, communities and our Rotary clubs. We are requesting all Rotarians to sign in to their clubs websites and update their classifications in their profile. We have Rotarians in the district who are currently looking for fellow Rotarians to conduct business with, but are having problems finding people to support.

More information will follow to assist in promoting this project to promote Rotarians working with Rotarians.



“Take Your Mark”

***[Following a series of referee whistles to position the swimmers]
“Take your mark”***

[Then the starting signal, and they're off!]

That's competitive swimming, something that is near and dear to John Daily's heart.

John Daily is a most interesting man, and has lived a most interesting life. I recently had the pleasure of meeting with John for some hours at his home. My purpose was to gather some information regarding his swimming prowess; but, in doing so, I learned so much more. For sure, among John's accomplishments are those in the area of swimming, but there is much, much more, so I'll first provide a brief sketch of John's life.

Shortly after John's birth in Cleveland in December 1927, his family moved to Detroit. The Great Depression soon followed, and, to survive, the family moved to Colorado Springs CO, to Richmond CA, back to Colorado Springs, on to Columbus (where John spent his younger school years through part of grade 3), and finally back to Detroit, where John spent the rest of grade 3 through 12.

Upon graduating from high school in January 1946, on the heels of WW II, John enlisted in the Army, where he served 1-1/2 years and was discharged in 1947 as a PFC. John then attended Michigan State College (now Michigan State University), studying Park Management and Municipal Forestry, graduating in 1951 with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry. Along the way, John enrolled in ROTC for his junior and senior years, which seems prescient, as South Korea was invaded in 1950. Upon graduation in 1951, John also received his Army officer commission as a 2d Lt, and served for another 2 years in the Korean War before being discharged as a 1st Lt in 1953.

More importantly while at MSC, in 1950 John married his love Ardell, with whom he would spend the next nearly 67 years. Their son Mark was born in the Fort Lee Army hospital in 1952. Their daughter Diane followed in 1960. Through Mark, who lives in Gunnison CO, John has 2 grand-

daughters and 5 great-grandsons. Through Diane, who lives near St. Louis MO, John has 3 grandsons.

Upon his discharge from the Korean War, John returned to Michigan State, where he received his Master of Science degree in Land and Water Conservation in 1954. John's education at MSC was made possible by the WW II and Korean War GI Bills, as well as a Graduate Tuition Scholarship that John earned.



John and his family then moved around for work, and their path to Akron is quite fascinating. John first began with the City and County of Denver Park Department in 1954. In 1955 they relocated to Burlingame CA where John was a structural steel detailing draftsman in his father's company. Then, in 1956, John landed a job with the Skokie Park District in Illinois, where he oversaw planning, construction and maintenance for 8 years. Later, in a display of serendipity, in 1964, as part of a national search, and identified as a candidate by his earlier MSC mentor, who was then Director of the Akron Metropolitan Park District, John was selected to become his successor, bringing John to Akron for the first time.

Despite the Park District's name, John is quick to point out that the Park District is not connected to any governmental entity, but is an independent creature of the State, governed by its own separate regulations, including a then 3-member (now 5) Board of Commissioners appointed by the Probate Court. John always felt that the inclusion of "Akron" in the District's name was a misleading, and feels that the later name change to Summit Metro Parks, as the District is now known,

is much more sensible.

John served as Director of our Park District for 30 years, retiring in 1995 at age 67. At the beginning of John's tenure as Director, the District included 6 parks. Under John's direction, additional parks were added, and the parks were further developed to have features that would better attract the public for use. He thoroughly enjoyed working with the various high-level Commissioner appointments made by the Court over the years. In fact, though John had considered retiring at 65, he continued for 2 more years because he so much enjoyed his work.

John is well regarded by Summit Metro Parks, and here is an excerpt from the current Summit Metro Parks website:

In 1965, the district hired its second long-time director-secretary, John R. Daily, who served until 1995. Under Coup, Wilcox and Daily, the 1960s and '70s was a period of much growth and support for the Metro Parks, and during Daily's 30-year tenure the park system grew to 6,600 acres. That included the additions of Silver Creek, O'Neil Woods, Hampton Hills, the Bike & Hike Trail, the Kniss Conservation Area, Munroe Falls Metro Park and Cascade Valley. Daily also helped acquire lands in the Cuyahoga Valley in the 1960s that later become part of Cuyahoga Valley National Park, saving them from development. Congressman John Seiberling was instrumental in saving the valley, and he was among the first to ride the Bike & Hike Trail when it opened.

The 3 initial Commissioners with whom John worked were all Rotarians [Forest Myers (real estate appraiser), Dr. Waldo Seman (Goodrich chemist), Joe Thomas (Firestone officer)], and supported John's Rotary membership. John was inducted into our Rotary Club in 1966 – 52 years ago. At our meeting on August 28, 2018, John was recognized for 52 years of perfect attendance, an extraordinary expression of John's dedication to Rotary. Along the way, John has served [Cont'd on pg. 12](#) 📄

"Take Your Mark" cont'd

on the Club Board and Camp Board; is a 5-time Paul Harris Fellow (a member who contributes \$1,000 to the Rotary International Foundation); is our Club's second Arch Klumph Society member (those who have contributed \$250,000 or more to Rotary International during their lifetime); drove kids to and from the Camp (back when that was allowed); served as Sergeant-at-Arms for 8 years; helped set up our inaugural Chili Open course at Wingfoot Lake (and has volunteered at most every Chili Open since then); and served as the 2006 Ambassador of Service for the Wayne Homes Chili Open. JOHN IS A TRUE ROTARIAN.

John's swimming experience is nothing short of compelling. He swam competitively in high school (co-captain of the swim team) and in the Army, but his real "career" didn't start until age 49, when in 1976 Ardell purchased a membership at the Akron Jewish Center "so they could get more exercise." While swimming at the Center, John's talent was recognized, and he was approached by an individual who introduced John to U.S. Masters Swimming, which had been formed a few years prior. John participated in his first meet in March 1977 at Branin Natatorium in Canton, and later joined the O*H*I*O Masters Swim Club,. The rest is history, as they say, and what a history it is!

I met with John in his office at home. In that room, there is artfully displayed (an Ardell touch) a myriad of medals John has earned over the years. There are awards from U.S. Masters Swimming National Championships, the National Senior Games, Masters YMCA Championships, and World Masters Swimming Championships. One wall is completely dedicated and covered with framed medals. The other 3 walls sport additional framed medals where space allots, and there are unhung frames as well. John has also received awards from numerous local meets that he keeps in a shoebox.

I was astounded, and took a few photos. The photo at the beginning of

this article features John against the "wall of frames," holding yet another frame that he explained contains his "Prized Possession." I was unable to get all of those wall frames in the picture. While many of the frames on the wall contain "Top Ten" patches along with medals, John has a separate framed collection of additional "Top Ten" patches, shown below.

One of the functions of U.S. Masters Swimming is to collect the results of all swimming meets (local, regional



and national) each year, and then determine the 10 fastest times in the country in each event per age group. This results in the "Top Ten" awards, of which John has dozens.

One of the hanging frames contains a collection of 5 medals with blue and white ribbons, which John was awarded at The World Masters Swimming Championship held in Montreal in 1994.

For a number of reasons, including hip surgery, John only swam in a few meets during the period 2004-2016, but following Ardell's unfortunate passing in 2017, John returned to swimming in earnest, immediately collecting more medals in a local meet. Then, just this year, at the U.S. Masters Swimming Championships (the 2018 Spring Nationals) in Indianapolis, John brought home 5 more medals – 1st place in the 200 yard backstroke; 1st place in the 100 yard backstroke; 2nd place in the 50 yard freestyle; 2nd place in the 100 yard freestyle; 3rd place in the 200 yard medley relay; and 4th place in the 200 yard freestyle relay. An interesting anecdote about the 2 relays is that John swam those in the 75+ age group, competing with and against

considerably younger swimmers.

John's recent accomplishments are even more remarkable, considering the impact of his hip replacement. Before the hip replacement, John's favorite events were the 200 yard breaststroke and the 400 yard individual medley (in which the swimmer swims all four strokes – butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle). Following the hip surgery, though, John was unable to perform the breaststroke kick, which took away his 2 preferred events. So John has adjusted, and now swims backstroke and freestyle, with his new favorite event being the 200 meter backstroke.



The final individual photograph I took was of John's "Prized Possession." That framed collection consists of an All American certificate issued by U. S. Masters Swimming in 2017, along with 3 All American patches – for the 100 meter freestyle; the 200 meter backstroke; and the 100 meter backstroke in John's age group (90 to 94 years old). These All American awards trump the Top Ten awards, since the All American awards recognize John as having THE FASTEST TIME IN THE COUNTRY in those events for the entire year of 2017 for his age group. And yes, John accomplished that at age 90, which makes it even more remarkable. Significantly, John has every intention to continue his competitive swimming career, and I look forward to being an ongoing fan.

Humility defines John. Do not expect him to raise the subject of his swimming prowess. But if you raise it with John, he is willing to discuss his experiences. Such a quiet gentleman. It was truly an honor for me to have spent the better part of an afternoon with such a truly remarkable man.

“Return to Vietnam for Healing & Reconciliation”

By John M. Schluep, D.Min.

On Monday October 1, 2018 four Vietnam War veterans, Paul Best, Dale Moravec, Al Plapp, and George Ryan; and two Vietnam era veterans, John Schluep, and Denny Wade, arrived in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) for healing and reconciliation. The veterans were accompanied by three family members, Rose Ryan, Bridget Ryan Murphy and Beth Schluep and Spiritual Healer, Chris Reynolds. This was the third return to Vietnam arranged and coordinated by Tallmadge Rotarian and Army veteran John Schluep who is also the founder of Warriors' Journey Home, Inc. The work of healing and reconciliation is supported by the Tallmadge Rotary. All three return visits, 2010, 2014 and 2018, have had the financial and prayer support of the Rotary members of Tallmadge, Ohio.



L to R Song, ARVN veteran and tour guide/interpreter. Back row: Al Plapp, Medic USMC TET 1968 Hue; Paul Best, Army Central Highlands. Dale Moravec, Army, Central Highlands. Middle Row: George Ryan, Navy three tours in Vietnam. Woman in black with hat is former Viet Cong. Man is former Viet Cong Officer. Denny Wade, Navy Vietnam era. Front Row: Lady in blue blouse is a former political prisoner of the Diem government. Kneeling is John Schluep Army Vietnam era and Founder of Warriors' Journey Home.

“The return journey begins a year in advance with spiritual preparation and coordinating travel in country.” Schluep said. “Once we have a list of interested veterans they tell us where they want to return to when they were in the war. This past year we went to battle areas, airfields, firebases, villages, cities and beaches where the Vietnam veterans served

almost 50 years ago. These areas included Cu Chi, Trang Bang, Tay Ninh, the Mekong, Sai Gon, Pleiku, Kontum, Hoi An, Da Nang, Tam Ky, Hue and the DMZ. We spent time touring and conducting ritual ceremonies for healing and reconciliation.” Our Central Highlands visit included meeting Montangards and offering them gifts of food and supplies. They taught us through their cultural drumming and dance. One of several highlights was visiting Kim Dong Elementary School in the Tam Ky Province. In 2010 Beth Schluep, then



John Schluep Tallmadge Rotarian with Tam Tien Viet Cong veteran in the Mekong Delta. The lady in the background is Bridget Murphy daughter of Vietnam veteran George Ryan.

class advisor of the 2012 Class of Theodore Roosevelt High School in Kent, Ohio, returned from the 2010 trip to inform her class officers of the needs in Vietnam for a elementary school library. In the effort of bringing peace the class officers of TRHS raised enough money to not only build a library but also to provide fur-



niture and several computers. The return in 2014 included a dedication ceremony and strengthened the bonds of friendship. The 2018 journey included a day visit to Kim Dong School and included the children providing a dance recital, welcome in

the cultural protocol of Vietnam, and participation in their English Class.

“We spend time with former ARVN soldiers, former Viet Cong and political prisoners. The healing and reconciliation goes both ways as we tell the stories of war, sacrifice and loss.



We meet the family members of the Vietnamese and share meals and conversations. Probably the most moving for me,” Schluep said, “is praying at the family altar of our former enemy. A wonderful bonding occurs when we pray in our own language for those who survived and for the souls of those who died. We spent some time with Kim Phuc's family in Trang Bang and offered a prayerful ceremony for all the children killed in the war. You may remember Kim Phuc as “The Napalm Girl” (1967). These are very emotional experiences of release and healing.”

The philosophical practices of Warriors' Journey Home are reflective and parallel of the values of Rotary for peace and wellness. The support of the Tallmadge Rotary is instrumental in making this journey possible. Edward Abbey said, “Sentiment without action is the ruin of the soul.” Rotarians put sentiment in to action that restores the soul and heals the heart.

How a Small Volunteer Project Became a Multi-million Dollar Greenway

Rotary Club of Cleveland

In 1975 a gentleman named Duane Salls flew into Cleveland for a job interview. He took a train from the airport into downtown for the interview and what he saw on his ride was a disgusting mess; people were dumping garbage all along the train tracks. He vowed there and then that if he landed the job he would do something about it. Luckily he did get the job and in 1977 he and the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA) founded a non-profit called Rapid Recovery.

The goal of Rapid Recovery was to clean up the train tracks from the airport to downtown so that future visitors to Cleveland would have a positive first impression of the City and daily riders would have a more pleasant experience. They asked organizations of any kind; for profit, non-profit, garden clubs etc., to adopt 200 feet of trackside and commit to cleaning it up. Rotary Club of Cleveland was one of the first to adopt a site.

The Club's effort was spearheaded by three amazing individuals, all were then in their 40's or 50's and all of whom lived in the suburbs. They believed that what was good for the City was good for the entire region and that this could be a way to get involved by doing more than simply writing a check or lobbying for someone else to do the clean-up. Roy "Dutch" Harley, Pete Presson and Stan Adams started and led what would become a 42-year project for the Club.



In less than two years the entire trackside was cleaned up and the project was such a success that Rap-

id Recovery changed its name to Cleanland Ohio and branched out to clean up streets. In 1982 Dutch was named Man of the Year by the non-profit for his personal efforts to help clean Hough Ave.

Unfortunately, the change in focus resulted in everyone but Rotary dropping out of the railroad project. One of the key lessons of this story is that non-profit efforts such as this can make a quick and dynamic difference but they are extremely hard to sustain over a long-period of time. But Dutch, Pete and Stan never quit and, in fact, expanded the site to over 500 feet by 1991. If not for these three Rotarians the tracks would not have continued to be groomed by volunteers.

Over the ensuing years the project expanded to take over even more sights previously maintained by other organizations. These sights had become overgrown and some had even become illegal dumping sites again. As part of a combination fundraising and clean-up project, the Club conducted a "Scrap Project" that tore out two unused rail lines and a former repair facility between 2009 and 2011. They scrapped over 110 tons of steel by hand and raised over \$55,000. In 2012, all of the funds were used to purchase new equipment for the project including a four-wheel drive tractor with multiple attachments. The Club negotiated to purchase most of the equipment from local manufacturer MDT, Inc, owner of Cub Cadet, at dealer cost saving an additional \$14,000.

The new equipment and the adoption of a plan to convert the site into a multi-use public greenway led to a surge in local volunteers. The site was expanded to cover two miles of trackside. In 2014, over 700 volunteer visits and untold meetings helped secure a partnership between the Club, RTA and Cleveland Metroparks, the county park service.

To promote the greenway idea, tours of the site were given by truck or hayrides. Over 5,000 people have taken the tour to date. The tour be-

came a fun and fact filled event in and of itself. Thanks to these tours the greenway landed a Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality grant for \$2.1 million in 2015. The Red Line Greenway was now a legitimate and transformational project that would connect eight economically and racially diverse neighborhoods on the City's west side to downtown.



The work of thousands of volunteers, led and funded by the Rotary Club of Cleveland, reduced the cost to build the greenway by over \$2 million. Metroparks used this fact to secure an \$8 million Federal TIGER grant in 2016, half of which went directly to the Red Line Greenway. They also secured a \$500,000 Clean Ohio grant in 2018 for a total of nearly \$7 million. Construction of the first two miles of the three mile greenway will begin in the summer of 2019. With potential spurs and extensions the Red Line Greenway could become a six mile network of trails serving over 58,000 residents. Over 20,000 of these residents are under age 19 and 52% of them live in poverty. For many this will be their only access to quality green space and a safe passage to all the attractions and jobs in downtown Cleveland.

Dutch Harley lived to age 98. Pete Presson lived to age 92. Stan Adams is now 97 years old. We like to joke that outdoor volunteer work is good for your longevity so get started now! The foresight, persistence and humbleness of these three great men will be a lasting lesson for everyone lucky enough to know them and hopefully, to anyone who learns their story. Men like this lived and breathed the Rotary motto, service above self!

Lennie Stover, Rotarian

News From TRC Berea

Naturalist tells Rotarians about mammals native to Ohio



Metroparks naturalist Martin Calabrese displays some of his wildlife collection. He is holding a deer skull.

there are 60 species of mammals in Ohio with 43 of them living in the Cleveland Metroparks. Twenty-five percent of those are bats. The Little Brown Bat is suffering from white nose syndrome – a fungus that impairs the bat's ability to hunt. Other species of bats are not affected fortunately because bats are essential in keeping insects under control.



Some of the animal pelts and skulls on display include fox, wolf and beaver.

From mink and beaver to coyotes and bats, a wide variety of mammals are native to Ohio, said Cleveland Metroparks naturalist Martin Calabrese. Calabrese brought several samples during his visit to Berea Rotary.

Mammals are defined as warm-blooded creatures with hair and mammary glands. They can live in trees (like flying squirrels) or in the water (like beavers). Or on land.

Calabrese said mammals are "the No. 1 group of animals that led me to study biology at Ohio State." He said

Coyotes are common even in urban and suburban areas like Berea, he said. The coyote is the result of interbreeding between dogs and wolves. They generally shy away from humans but you should watch your small dogs and cats.

Some animals native to Ohio have disappeared, mostly in the 1800s when the state was growing and more people were moving here. Mammals no longer found in Ohio include wolverines (they moved to Michigan), puma, elk, bison, lynx, martens, cougars and gray wolves.



1ST PRIZE: \$1200/-
2ND PRIZE: \$900/-
3RD PRIZE: \$700/-
HONORABLE MENTIONS: \$200/-

Rotary  **4 Way Test**
 District 6630  **SPEECH CONTEST**

APRIL 6, 2019
AURORA HIGH SCHOOL
9 AM TO 2 PM

OPEN TO ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
FROM PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS



Rotary Club of Nordon Hills
Annual Reverse Raffle

Saturday, February 2nd, 2019

Birchwood Banquet and Party Center
 7540 Northfield Road
 Walton Hills, Ohio 44146

Raffle Grand Prize \$2000
Side Boards, Bingo, Door Prizes

Open Bar 6:00 p.m. – Buffet Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Dinner Music & Dancing

\$75 per person
 Make checks payable to: Nordon Hills Rotary
 501(c)3 ID 47-1151123

Proceeds to support the **Chuck Sterling Scholarship Program** &
Chromebook RAHAB Ministries

For more information call David Fike 330-467-7547

The Rotaract Club of Baldwin Wallace University

Invites all Rotarians, Rotaractors & Interactors to
Its annual fundraiser dinner/raffle

6 p.m., Tuesday, March 26

Main Ballroom, BW's Strosacker Hall Student Union
120 Tressel St., Berea

Proceeds will benefit Save the Children

Look for details in the February District Newsletter

For more information, contact BW Rotaract adviser Marc West
mwest@bw.edu

Fellowships of Rotary

This is the 5th in a series of Informational articles on Rotary Fellowships that are found throughout the world. DG Bev and PDG Jack Young, 2018-10 District 6630 Fellowship Chair want to make sure Rotarians are informed in the various Fellowships that are available to Rotarians and their families which will enhance the knowledge of Rotary and the impact we have on the World. For further information on these fellowships and others, please feel free to contact PDG Jack Young at: 440-759-4000 or jack1vil-la@aol.com. The world of Rotary is helping us to learn more about the cultures in other countries and help build an everlasting peace.

Fellowships of Rotary

Rotarians on the Internet Fellowship: ROTI talk every day on the Internet through their Yahoo Groups with members, holding their Board meeting through Yahoo Groups only. They discussed everything except religious and political issues. Their activity is a dinner held during the RI Convention in Atlanta, where the immediate Chair handed over the mantle of leadership to the current chair.

Honorary Consuls' Fellowship

This is for individuals who have an interest in building International understanding, goodwill and peace. HCFR strives to actively promote ethical behavior, especially as Consuls and Diplomats who contribute to Rotary Objectives and attract World Peace and Understanding inspired by the 4 way test and Rotary's vision. United in their service to humankind in making and developing new friends.

International Home Exchange

The Fellowship encourages the exchange of homes with other families, working with a commercial home exchange organization to facilitate their homes to facilitate this activity. The goal is to promote the home exchange between Rotarian Families for fellowship.

International Go Playing Fellowship

GPFR held its 16th Local Tournament in Japan in October 2016 and its 18th International Tournament in Taiwan in April 2017, It is developing a newsletter in English.

Rotarian Genealogists Fellowship

Its purpose is to unite Rotarians with an interest in family history and exploring genealogy. It has 65 members in 7 countries and held its annual meeting in Atlanta at the Convention.

Fishing Fellowship

The Fellowship serves as a virtual House of Friendship. It helps members to contact each other to promote fishing tips, promote club and fellowship chapters fishing tournaments, sends out fishing invitations and publishes comments and photographs associated with all of the preceding information.

Esperanto World Fellowship

Its interest is using and sustaining the language of Esperanto. It has 120 members in 15 countries. A new E-Club chapter of Fellowship was founded in Brazil with 23 new members from different countries. The fellowship published an Italian version of the cartoon book "Paul Harris

Pioneer of the new world. Profits of the book sales will go to young people in Brazil for tools.

Ethics Fellowship

Membership in the Ethics Fellowship has grown in a very short time with over 1,000 members in 84 countries. The Fellowship was also able to participate in Institutes, District Conference and Rotary Clubs as well as lecture groups. They were at the Atlanta Conference in 2017. They have met with representatives from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, India, Italy, Mexico, Pakistan, Uganda and the United States.

Fellowship of Draughts Playing

They bring Rotarians together who share an interest in Draughts Playing. There are 32 players in 6 countries currently in the Fellowship. They had a booth at the 2016 West African Project Fair along with being at the 2017 Atlanta International Rotary Convention.

Doll Lovers Fellowship

Dolls are a symbol of International culture and friendship. There are 500 members in 100 countries who share the interest of collecting dolls. The members have visited various Doll Museums where students perform various dances and arrange various puppet shows.

January 2019

Connecting students and communities
around the world



What it's like to fight for families on the border

Every year, The Rotarian magazine shares stories from ordinary Rotarians in extraordinary circumstances. One story is from Ruby Powers, a former Rotary Youth Exchange student, Interactor, and Ambassadorial Scholar. Now, she is volunteering as an immigration lawyer for separated families at the U.S.-Mexico border. She says "I see this as a humanitarian issue, not a political issue. I've been in Rotary since I joined Interact in high school, and that's what the organization has taught me—to care about humanitarian issues."

Read the January issue to enjoy all the inspirational stories, or read more selections online.

[READ MORE >](#)



Two decades of service beyond borders

When Rajendra Saboo finished his term as president of Rotary International in 1992, he started thinking about how he could continue to help people. By 1998, after serving as Rotary Foundation trustee chair, he knew he wanted to do something hands-on. He and a fellow Rotarian who is a pathologist and past district governor organized the first of many medical missions to perform corrective surgery on patients with polio in Uganda. In the 20 years since that first trip, they've sent hundreds of volunteers around the world to perform 67,000 surgeries and examine 250,000 patients.

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