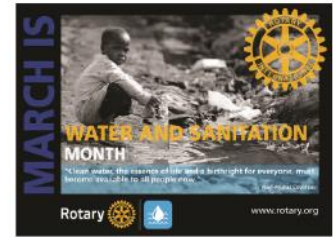




2018-2019 Newsletter

Rotary
District 6630
PEOPLE OF ACTION



Beverly Ghent-Skrzynski
District Governor

ROTARY DISTRICT 6630 NEWS

Mike Johns, Jr
Editor

March 2019

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Governor's Letter

MARCH IS ROTARY WATER AND SANITATION MONTH

Since 2013, The Rotary Foundation has invested in over 1,000 WASH (sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene) projects in more than 100 countries. Through grants from The Rotary Foundation and fundraising by Rotary clubs, our volunteers have supported water purification, hygiene education, latrine construction and waste management. 2030 is the year Rotary International hopes to finish providing everyone with safe water, hygiene and sanitation. *-Rotary International*



Dear Family of Rotary:

There aren't many aspects of what we do in Rotary that do not touch one of the most successful and sustainable areas of Rotary service – Water and Sanitation. When we build a well; plant a tree or landscape a river bend; update an aging power plant; cut the ribbon on a sanitation facility; help restore the quality of our local rivers and streams; help develop water treatment plants; educate our youth on the need to preserve our Great Lakes; teach our children to swim or a special needs child to fish...that is just a brief look at what "Rotary" accomplishes in District 6630 – your impact here and faraway.

With clean water...food will grow and our children can eat and our teachers can teach so our youth can go on to lead productive lives.

You forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one...Jacques Yves Cousteau



IT IS TIME TO REGISTER NOW!

2018-2019
District Conference of Clubs
INSPIRING PEOPLE OF ACTION

We are less than a month away from our District Conference of Clubs which is designed to, inform, inspire and celebrate our **Presidents of Action** and Rotary in District 6630. See the complete overview on page 6 with the updated **At-A-Glance** and Saturday **District Leadership Assembly (DLA)** schedule. We are truly fortunate to be able to truly **"touch the internationality of Rotary"** throughout the weekend.

I personally invite you to hear **Special Agent in Charge Eric Smith** from the Federal Bureau of Investigation – Cleveland Division; and share in a discussion on Membership Development successes and Human Trafficking in Northeast Ohio; celebrate our involvement with the Shoebox Program in support of the Children of the Dump in Nicaragua. As of press time we will also be welcoming **PDG Larry Wright from District 6400**

Governor's Letter cont'd

in Michigan for some additional words of inspiration and are planning for a "first-hand update" on the status of the devastation wrought by the **Category 5 Hurricanes Irma and Maria** in St. Thomas, USVI.

On Saturday I encourage you to join us for the **District Leadership Assembly** and then help celebrate **ALL OF OUR YOUTH** in so many ways including the 4-Way Test Speech Contest Winners – Youth Exchange – RYLA – Interact and Rotaract throughout the luncheon and the afternoon's Interact **Carnivale!** As of press time it has been confirmed that **both the Interact Advisor**

and Interact Club Vice President from Ivanna Eudora Kean High School in St. Thomas will be in attendance to help celebrate our Interactor's dream for a Literacy Project in their school! Throughout the conference we are honored to have in attendance our **RI President's Representative PDG David Bixler and Julie**; and we also will be celebrating our Major Donors to The Rotary Foundation and our 53,000 Points of Light Polio Eradication Program. **SEE YOU IN APRIL!**

Best regards,
Governor Beverly

My Defining Ah-Ha Moment

I joined Rotary 11 years ago as I wanted to find an organization that gave back to the community. My kids were now driving and in high school or college, so I had the time. My wife and I never had the time as we were very involved with the kids in School. That had wound down, so we had extra time. My good friend and neighbor, Ron Lombardo was a Rotarian in Cuyahoga Falls, and he invited me to their reverse raffle. There I met Jeff Wagner, who was the Club President of the Rotary Club of Stow-Munroe Falls. His club was a morning club, which worked better for me, as leaving for a noon meeting each week would be problematic. He invited me to their next club meeting.

The Rotary Club of Stow-Munroe Falls meets at Silver Lake Country Club on Wednesdays. I had always driven by the club, admiring the golf course, but was never inside for any events. Not being the great change agent to do new things, I was a little uncomfortable going in the first time. Rick Archer was the Sargent of Arms at that time and he welcomed me to their club. Jeff Wagner signaled me over to his table and began introduc-

ing me to several people. Too many people and too many names, I knew I would never remember who was who. Everybody was friendly and good natured and all were having a good time. The hour flew past and I walked out as bewildered as I came in, wondering how I would remember all these people.

My membership was accepted, and I was given my introductory red badge and a sheet I had to have a lot of people sign that had positions in the club. Since I didn't know many people, I tried to figure out who I could ask to see who these people were. I slowly made my way down the list of people, and began to recognize some who were names I recognized in the community. Mike Sekulich of Tallmadge Asphalt, Bruce Redmon of Redmon Funeral home, and many more. I would find out later that these two, and many more like them, did tremendous things in the community. To me it was just nice to be able to say hi and recognize them.

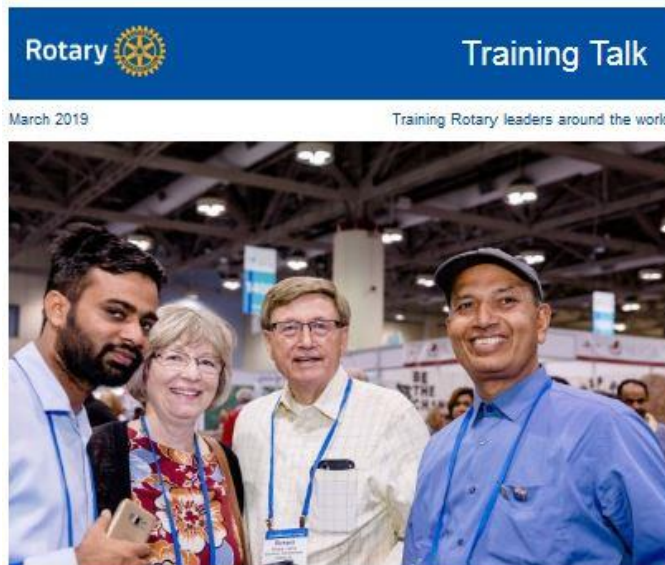
Rotary has another interesting thing that I thought I would eventually get a decoder ring to finally figure out what all abbreviations meant as everyone

talked in them. PE, PETS, PDG, DG and some wilder ones like DGEND, I think. It was very confusing, but I just rolled with it, thinking I was having fun, and it would either catch on or not, but would certainly give it a shot.

Around Christmas time, the club had come up with a service project called Holiday Helping Hands. The premise of the project is that we would have the school system pick ten families in need, and we would buy gift cards and food for the family. Rotarians would buy gifts for the kids in the family as we knew their gender and age. We all met at a local restaurant, wrapped the gifts, and filled the baskets with the goodies. They were a very nice gift for a family with over \$350 in gift cards, popcorn and gifts for the kids. Teams were picked to deliver them that weekend.

I was paired with Bruce Redmon, and we had a basket to deliver to a family with two kids. I had gotten to know Bruce, who is a very nice person and great Rotarian. We drove to the neighborhood talking about how nice the baskets were and excited that we had taken part in help-

Cont'd on pg. 3 



Welcome new members with Rotary Basics

Are you unsure where to start with your new member orientation? Have members learn more about Rotary and even test their knowledge with the new Rotary Basics course in the Learning Center. They'll read about Rotarians from around the world, learn about our values and causes, and deepen their understanding of Rotary through this interactive course.

The Rotary Basics course was designed for new Rotarians, but it's also a great refresher for other members — and even nonmembers — who want to know more about Rotary.

To take or recommend the class, use the link above. Anyone who isn't signed in to My Rotary will be prompted to do so before going to the Learning Center.

Special Agent to Speak at DisCon

Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Eric B. Smith was named SAC Cleveland by FBI Director Wray in December 2018.

SAC Smith graduated from the FBI Academy in 1999 and was assigned to the Wichita, Kansas Resident Agency (RA) where he worked multiple programs including Violent Crime, Counterterrorism, and Counterintelligence. In October 2005, SAC Smith transferred to the FBI's Counterterrorism Division where, for the next three years, he held positions as a Supervisory Special Agent and Unit Chief



Eric B. Smith Special Agent in Charge Cleveland

in the International Terrorism Operations Section, focusing on countering threats both domestically and internationally.

In 2008, SAC Smith was selected as the field supervisor for FBI Cleveland Division's Counterterrorism Squad and Joint Terrorism Task Force. In association with this role, he was chosen in 2010 to deploy to Bagram, Afghanistan and serve as the FBI's Senior Representative to the nation's elite Counterterrorism Joint Task Force.

In June 2013, SAC Smith was promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge in Cleveland where he had oversight for counterterrorism and cyber matters as well as multiple RAs. In April 2015, he joined the Senior Executive Service as the Chief of Staff to the

FBI Deputy Director. In December 2016, SAC Smith transitioned to serve as the Executive Special Assistant to the FBI Director. In this capacity, he served both FBI Directors Comey and Wray.

From 1991 to 1999, SAC Smith served as an officer in the United States Army, primarily in airborne rapid deployment

forces at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He graduated from the U.S. Army Airborne School, the U.S. Army Ranger School, the Basic and Advanced Military Intelligence Courses, the Jungle Warfare School, the Advanced Airborne (Jumpmaster) Course, and the Combined Arms Services Staff School. SAC Smith served as a battalion intelligence officer, an airborne rifle platoon leader, a company executive officer, and company commander. SAC Smith's military awards and decorations include the U.S. Army Ranger Tab, the Senior Parachutist Badge, the Royal Australian Parachutist Badge, and the German Schutzenschnur (shooting badge).

SAC Smith received his Master's Degree in Homeland Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School's Center for Homeland Defense and Security in Monterey, California in 2009. He graduated from Eastern Kentucky University in 1991.

My Defining Ah-Ha cont'd

ing make someone's Christmas a little better. Remember, that was just after the big stock market crash and we all knew of friends and family that had suffered in this crisis.

We pulled up to the house, and the outside looked pretty nice. I don't know what I was expecting, but it was well kept. We knocked on the door and a very nice young mother answered the door and invited us in. She had two young children who were right there by her side. When we walked in, the first things we noticed is there was no furniture in the room, and it was only about 50 degrees. We explained to the mother who we were and that we had brought a nice basket for her and the kids. That's when she started crying. That's when I started crying. She thanked us and the club so much, saying this would be the only Christmas they would

have, as her and her husband had lost their jobs and they didn't have much left. We all hugged and cried a little more before we left. Bruce mentioned to me on the way out, "and that's why I love Rotary".

At that moment, I became a Rotarian. I didn't care if I ever learned all their abbreviations; I wanted to be part of this great club that just did this wonderful thing for this family. Soon I found out that there were so many of these great people in other clubs, districts, zones and countries. One point two million to be exact. And I was part of them, I was one of them. Service above Self means so much to me now as I see selfless examples of it all the time. What a great Organization! So that is my Ahh-Ha Moment when I knew I was a Rotarian!

Bob Oborn
Rotary Club of Stow-Munroe Falls



February 2019

Take action to End Polio Now



5 ways Rotary is making progress to end polio

Although work remains before we fully end polio, we can be proud of the incredible progress we've made, working with our partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. As we begin 2019, Rotary is advancing toward our top goal in five notable ways.

[Read the story](#)

RI President's Message

By Barry Rassin
President 2018-19

One of the things I appreciate most about serving as president of Rotary International is the people I get to meet. Much of my time is spent traveling and visiting Rotary clubs around the world. A Rotarian welcome is something quite special. But let me tell you, there's nothing so warm as the welcomes that have been rolled out for me by Rotaractors. These are young people who are committed to Rotary ideals, who are pouring their hearts into service, and who, in the process, don't forget to have fun.

One of the highlights of my recent travels was a trip to Ghana, where I visited a district that boasts some 60 Rotaract clubs. They aren't satisfied with that number, though — in fact, they're excited about a plan to double it. They'll do it, too.

Rotaractors are vaccinating children against polio. They're donating blood where the supply is dangerously low. They're providing handwashing facilities

to schools where children previously had no way to get clean. In short, they're all about transformational service: carrying out projects that make a real difference in their communities.

In Nakivale, Uganda, one special Rotaract club is making a difference in its community — which happens to be a refugee settlement. These young leaders are turning what others might see as disadvantages into opportunities for service, building community and opening up new possibilities to those who are most in need of them.

In Turkey, Rotaractors are visiting children in the hospital every Wednesday to lift their spirits by playing games with them. They also are mentoring new students at their university and teaching them leadership skills.

Rotaractors are blazing the path for Rotary to be more relevant in this new century of service. And World Rotaract Week, which we're celebrating 11-17 March, is the perfect opportunity to get to know your local Rotaractors and talk to them about how your clubs can work together. If your Rotary club doesn't already sponsor a Rotaract club, know that you don't need to be near a college or university to do it: Community-based Rotaract clubs are a great option. And remember that Rotaractors are part of the Rotary family.

When Rotaractors are ready to leave their Rotaract club, we don't want them to leave that Rotary family behind. I'm asking all Rotarians to help them make the transition into a Rotary club or to start a new one: I'm happy to charter as many new clubs as we need to give everyone a place where they feel at home while making the world a little better. Service should be fun, it should be inspirational, and it should be open to all.


If there's one thing Rotary has always excelled at, it's diversity. In the past, that often meant diversity of profession, nationality, and outlook. We've made great strides when it comes to diversity of age and gender, and as we welcome more Rotaractors into our organization, we'll become even stronger.

Rotary is powerful. Together with Rotaract, it is unstoppable. Working side by side, we have the potential to be the Inspiration in every part of society, to every person we meet.

Win 4 nights at a Belize Resort and Help Rotary End Polio Now

Cleveland Rotarian Dave Diffendal and his wife Laura own and operate two resorts in Belize. They have generously donated 4 nights in a luxury queen cabana at their newest (adults only) resort, PUR Boutique Cabanas, on Ambergris Caye in Belize. Your stay must be between May 1 and November 1, but is not limited to this year. You can find out more about the resort, the area and things to do at www.purboutiquecabanas.com.

Raffle tickets can be purchased on our District website, www.rotarydistrict6630.org. Cost is \$20 for one ticket and \$50 for 3 tickets with all proceeds going to Polio eradication. Winner will be selected at our District Conference on Saturday, April 13th. Winner does not need to be present to win, but must be 21 or older.



Rotary  Brand News:
Special Edition

February 2019

TOGETHER, WE
LEARN

Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION

Tell us how your club takes Action. We just might feature your club's story in an ad at the next Rotary Convention, or in a future issue of Brand News!

What's new on the [Brand Center?](#)

News from E-Club NEO

Ten exciting facts about E-Club NEO

1. We're eager to meet former Rotarians who need a more flexible meeting schedule.
2. We're the right Rotary choice for new Rotarians who can't make a community meeting but are eager to do service at home and internationally.
3. We're multi-generational, flexible, eager to do Rotary service, and fun!
4. We're ready to meet online several times a month.
5. The technology is simple – a computer, an account in Zoom (our meeting software) and a Facebook account.
6. We plan to meet in person once a month to do service and socialize.
7. Our website will be live in a few weeks.
8. Our Facebook page is active now. Like us at Rotary e-club of District 6630
9. We'll hold our first meeting online in April.
10. Know someone who might be interested? Talk to us in the House of Friendship at the District Conference. Email us at rotarye-club6630@gmail.com or call/text Kathryn Craig, Chair, E-Club Planning Committee 330-569-4781 or Juleta Craig, Vice-Chair, E-Club Planning Committee at 330-936-7853.

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 FD420
Rotary International
One Rotary Center
1900 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201-3098 USA

OR Fax: +1-847-328-1200
Please call to modify your existing Rotary Direct contributions
Phone: +1-847-374-0277

YES I INTEND TO GIVE \$1,000 OR MORE ANNUALLY AND WILL JOIN THE PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY.*

YES I WILL ENROLL IN ROTARY DIRECT.

Name: _____

Rotary membership ID: _____

Club name: _____

Club number: _____

Billing address: _____

City: _____ State/province: _____

Postal code: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

*Contribution as an tax deductible where allowed by law for security purposes, please do not send credit card contributions on-line.

*Have the full name, Society registration (those who give \$1,000 or more each year in the United States) or a sponsored foundation grant cover letter to www.rotary.org/benefitsociety.

GIFT DESIGNATION (Choose one)

Annual Fund SHARE PolkPlus Fund

Providing Clean Water Fighting Disease

Supporting Education Saving Mothers and Children

Promoting Peace Growing Local Economies

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: _____

District Conference House of Friendship

As we approach our District Conference, let us “Be The Inspiration” to each other by sharing our projects and experiences in the House of Friendship. This area gives our clubs not only the avenue to share their projects, but also the opportunity to meet other clubs that may be interested in helping. Many different types of media have been used for the table displays. Fire up your imaginations and be the talk of our conference.

I have been a part of the House of Friendship at our past five District Conferences. Each year I have set up tables for both my Club, The Rotary Club of Kent, and for the water projects that my club participates in, in El Salvador. I have had the pleasure of talking with many Rotarians about our projects and through these discussions have been able to form new partnerships for these projects.

This has been a key fundraising strategy for our projects. Let me ask this where else do you have the chance to reach 200 + individuals, who are focused on “Service Above Self”?

I am going to make a challenge to all the Clubs in our District. The House of Friendship display contest has been won by the same club for the past five years. The challenge is, First come to our District 6630 Conference on April 12 and 13, Second Don't only setup a table in the House of Friendship but promote it, and Finally “BE THE INSPIRATION”. OH, and walk away with bragging rights.

I look Forward to seeing you all on April 12 and 13 at OUR District 6630 Conference.



Rotary Weekly

8 March 2019 A roundup of Rotary news



Empowering women through Rotary

The Seven Women Center in Kathmandu, Nepal, provides a respite from the discrimination and violence many Nepali women face in their personal lives. Stephanie Woollard, a former tour guide with a passion for social justice and a knack for connecting with people, started the center after several encounters in Kathmandu revealed the plight of women there. Now a member of the Rotary Club of Melbourne, Australia, Woollard's drive for justice led her to the Rotary Peace Centers at Uppsala University in Sweden in 2013.

READ MORE

District Conference: Inspiring People of Action



Combining fun with valuable leadership education is what this year's Conference of Clubs is all about.

RI President

Barry Rassin's theme is "Be the Inspiration." The 2019 District 6630 Conference has adopted "Inspiring People of Action" as its theme for the weekend of April 12-13. People can be inspired by innovative educational sessions and exciting speakers but also by some fun stuff, too. District Conference has plenty of both – from Cleveland FBI Special Agent in Charge Eric Smith and an Interactor from St. Thomas to Carnivale and the Rotary Attic for a unique shopping experience.

The Conference begins on Friday, April 12 with the Celebration of Life – a chance to remember and honor those Rotarians who have passed away during the past year. If you have not done so already, please let PDG Mike Davanzo know who in your club should be recognized.

The annual Business Meeting will follow at 10:30 a.m. This meeting is for designated representatives from each club. They will discuss and adopt the audited financial statement from this past year, among other topics.

The Presidents of Action luncheon begins at noon. Members of the Medina American Legion Post 202 Honor Guard have been invited to present the colors. The Resolution Quartet – a Sweet Adeline foursome – will offer the National Anthem.

RI Representative PDG David Bixler of the Rotary Club of Springfield, Missouri Metro will welcome us to the Conference. David is a founding member of his Rotary Club and served as District 6080 Governor in 2016-17. He is a member of the Paul

Harris Society. His wife, Julie, is also a Rotarian.

At the luncheon, we will honor 50-year members of Rotary and recognize those Rotarians who have been members for 1 year and 5 years. The Tri-District Membership Awards will be presented. The awards are the result of a contest introduced at the Tri-District Membership Conference last year. Clubs were challenged to submit plans to boost membership and show how those plans resulted in new members. Three of the four winners are District 6630 clubs.

The keynote address will be delivered Eric B. Smith, the newly assigned special agent in charge of the FBI's Cleveland office. Smith is an Army veteran and a graduate of Airborne and Ranger training. He served as a battalion intelligence officer and a company commander. He graduated from the FBI Academy in 1999 and worked in violent crime, counterintelligence and counterterrorism missions. Before transferring to Cleveland, he was executive special assistant to the FBI Director.

After lunch, a series of education sessions will include a panel discussion on Membership Recruitment – Success Stories under the chairmanship of PDG Jim McKee. Panelists include Rich Cole of Port Summit, Ray Krusinski of Northampton-Cuyahoga Valley, Kim Harris of Strongsville and James Collins of Brunswick. They will discuss what works in finding and retaining new members. "Several clubs have gained an extraordinary number of new members," Jim McKee said.

"The clubs that are growing have several things in common: 1, They are motivated to grow their club; 2, They have a committee working at membership; 3, They have a written membership plan; and 4, They sent a representative to the Tri-District Membership Summit in October."

"Every club should have someone attend this session," McKee said.

Another panel session – The Local Impacts of Human Trafficking - under the direction of Ken McEntee, will talk about ways to recognize trafficking and what we can do to stop it, including rescuing and rehabilitating the victims.

The Presidents of Action Dinner begins at 7 p.m. The District 6630 Centennial Celebration video will be shown. A Nicaraguan youth representing the Children of the Dump has been invited to attend and the Shoebox Project will be discussed.

Don't forget to visit the Hospitality Suite sponsored by the Rotary Club of Chesterland to top off the night.

Saturday, April 13 begins with a Meet & Greet breakfast at 7:30 a.m. followed by the District Leadership Assembly kick-off at 8:15 a.m. Presidents-Elect will meet at 9 a.m. to approve the 2019-20 budget. Also at 9 a.m., a series of three Leadership Education Sessions will begin.

In the first session, Rotarians can choose from five panel discussions. The second session at 10 a.m. will be open-ended moderated brainstorming on the topics discussed in the first session. The third session at 11 a.m. is a time for club members to discuss how to use the information learned to make their clubs Vibrant Clubs.

According to PDG Steve Zabor, District LEAD co-chair, the primary goal of the District Leadership Assembly is to prepare club PEs and club members who will be [Cont'd on pg. 7](#)

District Conference of Clubs cont'd

involved with membership, youth services, fundraising, community service and public relations. Club committee chairs and/or any interested club members are invited.

A second goal is to provide an opportunity for you to work with your club's leadership team. The last 50 minutes of the morning will be set aside for you and your club members to share what they have learned and to begin the process of drafting a comprehensive membership development plan that includes the impact of community service, public image development, fundraising activities and youth services. That is why attendance by at least one club member for each of the areas is highly advisable, Zabor said.

Lunch at noon is a Celebration of Youth. Rotary Youth Exchange students will parade their countries' flags into the dining room to open the lunch and in-bound Youth Exchange students will be recognized. The District Four-Way Speech Contest winners will deliver their speeches. District Rotary Youth Leadership Awards chair Marc West will explain Camp RYLA, which is held at Baldwin Wallace University in Berea for one week in the summer. Interact and Rotaract clubs will be chartered.

A highlight of the Conference is a visit by Danika Labone, vice president of the Interact Club of St. Thomas, V.I., and the club adviser Kerish Robles. After the devastating hurricanes of 2017 damaged the St. Thomas High School, Interactors from throughout District 6630 came together to help. With donations from Interact Clubs and 19 area Rotary Clubs, the students raised \$37,000 to replace much-needed books, computers and other equipment and materials for the library at Ivanna Eudora Keen High School on St. Thomas. That amount far exceeded their \$10,000 goal.

The Rotary Club of Chesterland applied for a grant from Rotary International to match the funds raised by the Interactors. District 6630 also matched the funds. The total grant amounted to \$142,000.

Danika and Kerish will update us on the remodeling project and will meet with local Interactors.

The luncheon will conclude with the presentation of the Richard C. Pitcher Award.

The afternoon is Carnivale time. Interact students have arranged for dozens of unique games to try our skills and raise funds for Interact projects. Try your hand at West Geauga's infamous toilet paper toss or play limbo and musical chairs with students from Stow, among other games.

And don't forget to support Interact's conference project – Care Packages for Foster Children. Interactors will fill string backpacks with goodies for infants ages newborn to 24 months and for older kids 10-18. You can access the Wish List on Amazon. See a more detailed report elsewhere in the newsletter.

The Caribbean theme carries into the Be the Inspiration Governor's Reception at 6 p.m. with a Caribbean themed dinner buffet at 7 p.m. Rotary Youth Exchange students again will lead off with the Parade of Flags followed by the Youth Exchange commissioning ceremony. Major donors to the Rotary Foundation will be recognized and the 53,000 Points of Light video will be shown. The 53,000 Points of Light is an End Polio Now project launched by Cleveland Rotarian George Porter last year. He challenged all 53 clubs in the District to donate \$1,000 each to the Foundation's End Polio Now campaign. His program would match those funds.

There will also be raffle baskets donated by clubs and clusters with all proceeds going to End Polio Now.

RI Representative David Bixler will be with us all weekend to offer encouraging words during lunches and dinners and the sessions.

Be sure to visit the House of Friendship, which will be open throughout the Conference. Clubs will have displays as will Interact, Rotaract, RYLA and other Rotary special interests.

New this year is The Rotary Attic un-

der the able direction of Judy Davanzo, wife of PDG Mike Davanzo. Clean out your closets and bring with you those Rotary items you don't want any longer – T-shirts, scarves, jewelry, knick-knacks – in good condition. We'll sell it. The Attic will be open all weekend.

End your Conference stay in the Hospitality Suite sponsored by the Rotary Club of Chesterland.

Sign up for the Conference and your stay at the Cleveland Airport Marriott on the District 6630 Web site – www.rotarydistrict6630.org. The Marriott is at 4277 W. 150th St., Cleveland, just off the I-71 exit ramp. The District has arranged for a block of rooms at a reduced rate.

The Web site also has a detailed agenda for the Conference.

Thanks to Conference Chair Julie Brandle and the District Conference Planning Committee for organizing and scheduling an inspiring and educational weekend.

CLICK HERE TO SEE THE DISTRICT LEADERSHIP ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE



CLICK HERE TO SEE THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE



The History of The District Conferences

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

As the date for the 2019 District 6630 Conference of Clubs approaches, this seems to be a good time to cover the history of district conferences. This is especially true since our own Arch C. Klumph was the "father" of the concept of district conferences.

In 1914-15, Arch chaired RI's Committee on Constitution and By-Laws. When Arch presented a proposed new constitution and by-laws for approval at the RI national convention in San Francisco in July of 1915, the document called for all the existing Rotary clubs to be organized into districts with each district to be led by a district governor. This new district set-up, which placed the existing clubs into 19 geographic districts, was to take effect on September 1, 1915. The proposed revised constitution was adopted unanimously by the delegates in attendance. One of the few specific directives for the new district governors was to organize an annual district conference for the benefit of the Rotarians in the district.

When the district concept took effect, all of the Rotary clubs in Ohio were in District 7, which also encompassed the state of West Virginia and the state of Michigan (except for the Upper Peninsula). The first district conference for District 7 was a one-day meeting held in Detroit, Michigan, on March 3, 1916, with the Rotary Club of Detroit as the host. According to an account of the meeting that appeared in the May 1916 issue of The Rotarian magazine, "when the session opened with a typical Rotary luncheon there were present one hundred seventy-one Rotarians." After the opening luncheon, the attendees convened in an afternoon session "given over to a discussion of subjects of general interest to Rotarians."

The evening session opened with a "Rotary banquet" with about two hundred twenty-five present. After dinner, there was a talk by Rotary International Secretary Chesley R. Perry, an outline of the Rotary convention to be

held in Cincinnati in July of 1916 by "Fritz" Galbraith, and a "splendid paper" by Arch C. Klumph of Cleveland on "Rotary Today and Tomorrow." Interspersed during the evening were several songs by Rotarian E. G. Hoelzle of Cleveland.

Akron's Rotarians took along a gross of toy Zeppelins, courtesy of the Miller Rubber Company, which they launched from the balcony of the dining hall to advertise the city of Akron and the Akron Rotary Club. The Akronian newsletter reported that these miniature aircraft were "eagerly sought for as they descended." Akron's contingent so enjoyed the first annual district conference that they all agreed that they would go to a conference again the next week if one were offered.

Wheeling, West Virginia was the site of the second annual district conference. The meeting was held on March 23, 1917 at the Scottish Rite Cathedral with the Rotary Club of Wheeling as the host. DG Oswald chaired the meeting, which was attended by 254 registered Rotarians, who engaged in a discussion of several "important matters," according to an account in the May 1917 issue of The Rotarian magazine.


In his report on the conference, F. W. Colmar of the Wheeling Rotary Club stated that the evening banquet, which was also attended by the ladies, "proved to be a huge success". Several speeches were made and the "eloquent effort" by Edward Kelsey of Toledo was voted the "speech of the day."

The third annual conference of District 7 was held on March 11, 1918 in Zanesville, Ohio. Conference registration totaled 537, and DG Kelsey

presided. Allen D. Albert, who had served as president of Rotary in 1915-16, was one of the speakers. Other major addresses were given by Philip R. Kellar, managing editor of The Rotarian magazine; Jeff Webb, president of the Rotary Club of Detroit; and Herbert Stalker of the Rotary Club of Toledo, whose talk on "Personal Power" was so well received that it was eventually published as an article in the February 1919 issue of The Rotarian.

On July 1, 1918, all the clubs in Ohio were placed in District 10. On that date, there were 20 clubs in the district, all of which had previously been in former District 7. Charles H. Brown of Columbus was the district governor for 1918-19.

Turning to the subject of the district conference, Mr. Brown said, "The conference of the Tenth District, held in Columbus, February 3-4, 1919, was a distinct success, both from the standpoint of attendance and enthusiasm, the registration showing a total attendance of 983." According to a Plain Dealer account, one of the speakers at the conference was Governor J. M. Cox, who urged the attendees "to turn their war-time energies" to the problems of reconstruction. Another speaker, William Rothenberg of Cleveland, spoke about the problem of juvenile delinquency, and the Rotarians at the conference pledged to get involved in the "Big Brother" movement.

Over the next several years, the district conferences continued to be well attended and were one of the highlights of each Rotary year. The practice was to have one or more of the district clubs host the conference, which meant that [Cont'd on pg. 9](#) 

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

History cont'd

the members of the host club were responsible for booking the meeting space, arranging for hotel rooms, and planning special social events.

By 1925, the Rotary clubs of North-eastern Ohio were in District 21, and the annual district conference on April 2-3 attracted approximately 1,000 Rotarians and guests to Canton, Ohio. The 1930 district conference was held in Cleveland, and some 1,500 Rotarians were in attendance. As is illustrated by the attendance figures mentioned above, the district conferences were popular and well attended up until the events of World War II presented problems. In 1945, there were no district conferences in the United States because the federal government placed restrictions on the size of meetings to relieve demands on transportation and hotel facilities. By 1950, district conferences were back to their pre-war numbers in terms of attendance.

At some point between the 1950s and the 1970s, attendance at district conferences began to decline. The exact numbers are not available as the local newspapers did not cover the meetings in any depth. In any event, the reported attendance at the 1974 conference was 310, and the district governors during the 1970s complained frequently about the dwindling attendance numbers.

District conferences in District 6630 and its predecessors were called just that, "District Conferences," until 1989. Beginning that year, the meetings were known as DISCON with the year attached (for example, DISCON '89.) This naming pattern continued until 2003. That year, the district began referring to the district conference as a "Conference of Clubs," which is the current practice.

The District 6630 Conference of Clubs will be held on April 11-12, 2019, at the Cleveland Airport Marriott. Go to the D6630 website at www.rotarydistrict6630.org to register for the conference.



ICC, called CIP (Comités Inter Pays) in Europe, is a growing network of Rotarians around the world. Rotarians concerned with peace and international projects should consider joining the movement and becoming an ambassador for peace. Several Rotarians from District 6630 are already involved to start a section of



Concert Resonance for Peace - Liège, Belgium
February 23, 2019 - Artists from Ukraine and Russia

ICC in Akron with District 2232 Ukraine and District 5240 California. The new committee for ICC is now exploring in depths what it means for our District to be involved in ICC with two other Rotary Districts. The results of our investigations will be discussed at the next meeting: on March 26, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at Portage Country Club, after the regular meeting of the Akron club. The plan is to start this new ICC by signing with the District Governors of Ukraine, California and Ohio with the national coordinators and ICC Council, in Hamburg before the Rotary International Convention opens its doors, on Friday, May 31, 2019.

Nordonia Hills Celebrates 40th Anniversary

On April 30, 2019, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. the Nordonia Hills Club will gather at the Twinsburg Hilton to celebrate a milestone anniversary – 40 years of service!! There will be a short presentation, a chronology and history of the Club and fun tales shared by our 3 Charter Members. Of course, there will be food and

Inter-Country Committees Comités Inter-Pays

At the concert Resonance for peace in Belgium two weeks ago, Ovidiu Cos, chair of ICC international, explained to me that ICC is more a personal engagement of Rotarians than a group or club commitment. Each section of ICC is free to choose the projects and the actions Rotarians want to be involved in. It can be a global grant, a project for peace, any humanitarian action, student exchanges, or cultural project.



International ICC Chair Ovidiu Cos (Romania),
Olga Zmiyivska (Ukraine), Elena Matveeva
(Russia) and ICC Chair Nominee Cyril Noirtin
(France)

The result will be better networking and new friendships built between different cultures.

In Rotary
Claudine Schooley

drink! If you'd like to join us, just email: dianacolavecchio@gmail.com so we can confirm your reservation.

Sell Ducks, Make Money

By Ken McEntee
Rotary Club of Strongsville

All the clubs in District 6630 can cash in on a simple fundraiser to sell rubber ducks online for the Strongsville Rotary's Seventh Annual Duck Race and KidsFest.

You can share in the money simply by sharing a link.

It may be the easiest fundraiser you'll ever do.

Several thousand rubber ducks will waddle down the Rocky River in pursuit of cash prizes at the conclusion of KidsFest, on Saturday, June 1, 2019.

Between now and then, participating rubber ducks will be sold to the public through the event website, at www.strongsvilleduckrace.com. Partnering organizations – Rotary Clubs, Interact Clubs and other non-profits – each will have their own page through which to sell ducks. Partners who sell at least \$250 worth of ducks will keep half of the proceeds of their sales.

To participate, simply contact Club Secretary Kris Heinrich at krisheinrich3730@yahoo.com and tell her your club wants to make easy money.

Kris will send you a customized link. All you have to do is share the link on Facebook, Twitter and other social media. Any time somebody clicks your link and buys a duck, your club makes money. It's that easy.

And be sure to bring your kids and grandkids over to the Cleveland Metroparks Chalet Recreation Area, in Strongsville, to enjoy a free day of fun at KidsFest. The Strongsville club's annual give-back to the city's kids will feature:

- ◆ Pony rides
- ◆ Metroparks Nature Tracks
- ◆ Face painting
- ◆ Inflatables
- ◆ Giant bubbles
- ◆ Touch-a-Truck, featuring the city's safety vehicles
- ◆ Games and crafts

The event begins at 11:00 a.m. and will conclude at 2:00 p.m. with the annual duck race down the river. Last year the first five ducks to cross the

finish line earned their owners cash prizes ranging from \$2,500 to \$100. Prize allocations for this year's race haven't been determined yet.

Ducks cost:

- \$10 for one,
- \$20 for a flock of three or
- \$50 for a raft of 10.

The Strongsville Duck Race and KidsFest is held at the Cleveland Metroparks Chalet, 16200 Valley Pkwy, Strongsville, OH 44136. Parking is limited, but lots of free parking and shuttle service is available at the RTA Park and Ride, at Route 42 and the Ohio Turnpike entrance. For complete details, visit www.strongsvilleduckrace.com.

Running From Conflict

By PDG Jack Young

The Search For Safety in Syria (The story of just one family)

When Shelter Box found its distribution partner in Syria, Relief Aid, first met Mohammed and his family, they had been displaced for more than one year and were living in an empty room in a displacement camp.

"Before being displaced, I had a beautiful house and farmland where I had wheat and sheep, he told Relief Aid representatives. My house was bombed and I rebuilt it. Then the planes returned and bombed us again and we could not stay"

Mohammed and his family could not bring anything with them when they left. Without any comforts of his home,

their life was difficult. There is not access to electricity, schools or medical facilities. Water is scarce and there are open sewage channels. Then things got worse.

The owner of the building they were living in wanted the room back. Mohammed had 5 days to find a new living situation. He borrowed some money and borrowed materials for a tent from one of his relatives. He was able to build a structure for his family to live but with winter and rain coming it was far from ideal. They did not have a heater because they had no money.

SHELTER BOX in partnership with ReliefAid, provided Mohammed and his family with essential aid items, including mattresses, solar lights and children's clothing.

Mohammed "I would like to say thank you very much to Shelter Box and ReliefAid for helping me and other families in the camp. I hope you will continue to help needy families. Mohammed and his family said they hope one day they will be able to return to their home and again have a safe place to live. When his oldest son Majid was asked what he wished for the coming year, he said, "I hope to return to my home and school, to play with my friends, and that the planes stop killing us"

FROM SHELTER BOX: The conflict in Syria is entering its ninth year. The brutal civil war has displaced nearly 700,000 people. Shelter Box is working with their partners to help those affected. THANKS TO ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT, we have helped thousands of families like Mohammed. For more information please feel free to contact PDG Jack Young, (440-759-4000 or Jack1villa@aol.com)

Be the INSPIRATION

Become a FRIEND

INSPIRE our youth to connect with the values of the 4 Way Test by becoming a Friend. All you have to do is send in a check for \$25/- Your friendship will help create hope for a better tomorrow!

In return, you will be recognized at the District Contest as a Friend of the 4 Way Test. You will also be entitled to attend the Contest at no extra charge. This includes lunch and refreshments (\$35/- value). You don't have to attend to become a Friend. All money raised will go towards the contest. An excellent opportunity to be the Inspiration!

Rotary District 6630 4 Way Test

April 6, 2019 | 9 am to 2 pm | Aurora High School

[Cut and return this portion with payment to address indicated below by March 29, 2019]

Please list my name as a Friend of the 4 Way Test Speech Contest as follows:

YES, I will attend the District Contest on April 6, 2019

NO, I am unable to attend the District Contest

Make checks for \$25/- payable to RI District 6630 and mail to:
Rotary Club of Aurora, P.O. Box 795, Aurora, OH 44202
Deadline to receive Form & Payment is March 29, 2019

WHAT TO EXPECT ON CONTEST DAY



April 6, 2019
9:00AM to 2:00PM
AURORA HIGH SCHOOL
109 W Pioneer Trail, Aurora, OH 44202

- 9:00 – 9:30am: Registration**
A Rotarian from the Club must accompany the student contestant
- After registration**
All others will proceed to the Common Areas for refreshments
- 9:40 am: Tours of Contest Rooms**
AHS Interact students take student contestants on a tour of classrooms in which semi-final rounds takes place
- 10 am: Call to Order**
Followed by Briefings of Judges, Timers and Student Contestants
All others will be requested to go to the classrooms in which the contests take place
- Semi-finals**
Everyone will be required to remain in the classrooms until all speakers have delivered their speeches. The audience will be informed when it is okay to return to the Common Areas.
- Lunch in Common Areas**
- Finals in the Auditorium**
- 2 pm: Contest ends**

The Jimmy Sutphin “Service above Self” Rotary Award at TRC Hudson

The Jimmy Sutphin “Service above Self” Rotary Award Goes to HHS’s Lani Banner



Jimmy Sutphin, initial awardee

In 2015, the Rotary Club of Hudson established the Jimmy Sutphin Award to recognize a deserving Rotarian or Hudson Community leader who most closely reflects dedication to the “Service Above Self” Rotary standard.

The initial recipient was Jimmy “Inky” Sutphin, a friend and colleague of both the Rotary Club of Hudson and the Hudson Community. Jimmy was universally loved by local citizens who benefited by his communication skills and his empathy for all he encountered. The award has not been bestowed again since then.

The Sutphin Award once again recognizes a local leader who has made a difference in so many lives in our community.

The criteria for consideration of an individual for the award include:

- ◆ Is actively involved in the Hudson community (not necessarily a resident).
- ◆ Exhibits the general objectives of Rotary in his/her personal and business life.
- ◆ Exhibits the ideals of the 4-way test in his/her personal and business life
- ◆ Demonstrates leadership qualities
- ◆ Makes a significant impact on the overall community
- ◆ Demonstrates creativity and initiative

- ◆ Demonstrates responsibility and dependability
- ◆ Doesn’t have to be well known, but could be an “unsung hero” doing good deeds throughout the community



Lani Banner, Coordinator Service Learning program, Hudson High School. Gail Royster, Rotary Club of Hudson award presenter

The 2019 recipient of the Jimmy Sutphin award is Lani Banner, Coordinator of the Hudson High School Service Learning program that incorporates Social Studies and English with actual on-site community volunteering. The program has expanded from 25 students in its first year in 1998 to the current class size of 90 seniors.

The Rotary Club of Hudson has consistently provided financial support to Service Learning through its Foundation and has participated in volunteer community projects and classroom discussions with the students. Service Learning’s purpose is to:

- ◆ Go beyond the Hudson “bubble”.
- ◆ Step outside the student’s comfort zone.
- ◆ Change preconceived notions of classmates, groups or ideas
- ◆ Cultivate joy and gratitude
- ◆ Encourage civic activism
- ◆ Foster compassion and empathy

An example of the Service Learning activities led by Lani is the contemporary policy projects where students work in groups to problem solve pressing community issues through research, creative presentations in

front of Rotarians and in classroom dialogue as expert witnesses. Another example is the Random Acts of Kindness research and presentations of findings and recommendations by student project teams.

Lani and the Service Learning staff of Jamie Kosmin, Marty Bach and Brittany Amiet teach with a notable love of and commitment to the development of understanding and compassion in their students with the hope that they will go forth and contribute to the betterment of society. Lani, as a leader and educator exemplifies the Jimmy Sutphin standard of making a difference in our community, both present and future.

Congratulations and thanks to Lani for a job well done!

Rotary members are People of Action applying leadership to solving social issues, tackling community challenges and finding lasting solutions to the world’s systemic problems.



TRC Port Summit Inducts 11 New Members

On Monday, March 11th the Rotary Club of Port Summit inducted 11 new members! We would like to thank our District Governor Beverly Skrzynski for presiding over the evening, and thank you to so many Rotary dignitaries and officers past and present for attending the event: PDG Dave Skrzynski 98-99 (Berea), PDG Stew Buchanan 10-11 (Akron), PDG Jim McKee 16-17 (North Hampton), DGE John Reyes 19-20 (Akron), DGND Larry Lohman 21-22 (Kent President 18-19), AG Tom Craig 18-21 (Green), Barberton President Chris Stolle 18-19, Green President Kristen Lewis 18-19, Barberton PP and PE Ruth Kaser 19-20, and Port Summit PE Dan Kuntzman 19-20. Our new members and sponsors (in parenthesis) are as follows: Cari Ayers of Mock Property Services (Dawn Powell Presley), Jeremy Caudill of Jeremy Caudill Productions (Ron Whitmer), Andrea Cervellino of Guaranteed Rate (Judy Miller), Tracy Fast, Fiscal Officer of the Village of Lakemore (Dan Kuntzman), Randy Grose of Media 144 Securities (Randy Ringer), Bob Haren of GASP (Lee Miller), Matt Kelly, Councilman of the Village of Mogadore (Kim DeBenedictis), Sam Ray, Councilman of the Village of Lakemore (Connie Krunich), Jacqui Rini of Highpoint Realty (Ralph Petit), Darlene Snyder of Act Now Print & Promote (Dianne Kuntzman), and Michelle Csonka Woods of Head Start (Richard Cole). The Rotary Club of Port Summit serves the communities of the Ellet neighborhood of Akron, the Villages of Lakemore and Mogadore, and the Townships of Springfield and Suffield. We meet weekly on Thursdays at noon upstairs at Mogadore's Clay Oven Restaurant on Cleveland Avenue. Thank you to our new members for joining the Rotary Club of Port Summit, and in turn joining our committed Rotarian efforts to make our community, country and world better and brighter for so many! God bless everyone! Respectfully submitted, Rotary Club of Port Summit President, Richard Cole

Rotary Treasures Store at District Conference

Spring is coming soon. So is the District Conference.

Do you have Rotary Items that are just sitting around collecting dust?

Do you have Rotary Items that have never left your closet?

If you answered yes to any of these questions bring these Items to the office of the District Conference I April 12-14 at the Cleveland Airport Marriott.

This year District 6630 will have a Rotary Treasures Store filled Rotary items. This includes clothing, bags, hats, and mugs to name a few. The proceeds from this store will go to support local Rotary initiatives. If you cannot attend send the items with a member of your club who is attending.

If there are any questions contact mdavanzo@zoominternet.net.



Foster Children Care Packages



Mission:

To collect products for children in the foster care system and donate them to local Children Services Agencies.

Items Needed:

There are 2 age groups we will concentrate on that have the most need.

For ages newborn - 24 months, we need:

baby lotion, baby shampoo, diapers, wipes, diaper cream, formula, sleepers, baby blankets, booties and mittens, and bibs.

For ages 10-18, we need:

lotion, soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner, journals, and pens and pencils to write in the journals.

Please note that all toiletries should be full size.

What You Can Do To Help:

- You can bring any of the items on the list to the District Conference on our Youth Day, Saturday, April 13th. Care packages will then be assembled after the Conference.
- Monetary donations are always accepted as well. You can make a donation to your local Interact club for their collection or contact Chelsea Talty chelsea.talty@westg.org or Bob Oborn boborn@kentelastomer.com.
- If you have access to drawstring backpacks, we are looking for donations. Please contact Chelsea or Bob.

Amazon Wishlist Links for all items:

Link for baby items -

https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3UXD964FYU46B/ref=cm_wl_huc_view

Link for older children -

https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/30IBR5QIFK7AO/ref=cm_wl_huc_view



RYLA

By Marc West
Baldwin Wallace University
Rotary Club of Berea

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Conference: Camp RYLA

It is a Thursday night at 8:00 pm in June, and we have just concluded the banquet for Camp RYLA. Some of the participants are crying, and the parents are wondering what has just happened. The staff is exhausted and preparing for check out, filled with lots of hugs and goodbyes. Everyone knows that they will not be the same after participating in this camp for the 5 days that we have just had. This is the scene of a powerful program that is sponsored by our District Rotary Club. This program has changed the lives of so many young people and leaders in northeast Ohio. Read more about Camp RYLA and see how your club can get involved by sending a participant this year.

Dates of this year's camp are Sunday, June 9, 2019 – Thursday, June 13, 2019.

History of RYLA:

District 6630 has a gem in Camp RYLA (Pronounced Rye-la). This New Generation program has been featured by our District since 1991 and was developed by Rotarians Rich Humphries, Lyle Pohly and Dr. Bob Jackson. While serving as District Governor and after returning from the Rotary Convention where he learned about the RYLA program, Rich worked with Lyle and Bob to initiate the process of establishing the program in our District. 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.

Dr. Bob Jackson served as the Chair of the District committee from 1991 – 1997, and continued on the committee until 2011. Lyle Pohly served on the committee from 1991 – 2008 and assumed the primary responsibility of arranging the speaker series for the program. Dan Svede then served as the Chair of the District Committee from 1997 – 2011. Other prominent Rotarians from District 6630 that have served on the District Committee are John Wilson, Tim Wright, and Shelia Hedrick. Marc West, at the time a Hiram College staff member in the Residential Education department, was selected as the On-Site Director and served in that position through 2015. West now serves as the Chair of the District Committee, a role he assumed in 2011. David Vale has been the On-Site Director for the Camp since 2016.

During the summer of 2012, RYLA was moved to Baldwin Wallace University from Hiram College to meet the need for better accommodations at a more reasonable price. To date, RYLA has seen **1219** participants, and **129** staff members through the 28 years of the program.

What is Camp RYLA?

Camp RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) is a 5 day leadership training camp, held during the second or third week in June, which focuses on personal and professional development of high school students. Rotary clubs throughout the world are committed to helping shape the leadership skills of today's youth. Camp RYLA is one way Rotarians achieve this goal.

Why CAMP RYLA?

Strong leaders ARE MADE, not born! Leadership principles ARE LEARNED not inherited!
Through Camp RYLA, the partici-

pants, the "leaders of tomorrow", have the unique opportunity to be exposed to many facets of leadership by individuals who have already learned to be leaders in their professions or fields. Camp RYLA is an enjoyable and valuable experience for those who can meet the challenge.

What will a Student get from CAMP RYLA?

Camp RYLA provides students with an opportunity to exchange ideas, opinions, and beliefs with other students in a relaxed, retreat style setting. At camp, they will be involved. Participants will develop new friendships and become a more effective role model, team player and leader.

How does CAMP RYLA work?

High school students, who will be seniors in the 2019-2020 year, are eligible for this scholarship award. The total camp participants are around 60-65 talented and enthusiastic leaders from high schools throughout Northeastern Ohio. Clubs are asked to send no more than two students that attend the same high school. Some of the participants are established and others are emerging leaders. Camp RYLA proves that a student can make friends—and have FUN—while learning & growing!

What is a typical day at CAMP?

Days begin early with breakfast to get the body moving. Throughout the morning, students attend speaker sessions. Afternoons are filled with speaker sessions, educational activities, and discussion groups. Evenings have social events that allow participants to interact with other campers. They conclude their day back in the residence hall (on-campus housing) for group discussions. This time allows the campers to reflect on the day's experiences and on what they have learned.

Some of the speakers that have participated in Camp RYLA have been the following:

Linda Rea; Dave Mager; George Cochran; Sarah Shumate; Kathryn

Cont'd on pg. 14 

RYLA cont'd

Craig; Bob Bryson; Lori Fox; Todd Rose; Eric Dickens; Cherymae Aromas; Kacee (Farrell) Snyder; Debbie Sprang; Betsy Bishop; Lyle Pohly; Trindy Jeter; Cassy Bailey; Jaime Gray; Chris Bragdon; Kim Dettmer; Evelyn Ashley; Daniel Powell; Hale Chatfield; Dick Kluge; Brad Shumacher; Sean Gilmore; Glenn Zaltzman; Diane Swoope; George Lilja; Robert Kobak; Denny Taylor; Matt Hils; Steve Hallan; Ron Taggart; Frank Vaughn; Michael Schwartz; Lawrence Simpson; Dorothy Jackson; Mark Albrect; David Pyper; Thad Doyle; Roger Cram; Bob Dean; Dave Mager; Julie Miller; Bob Dean; Christie Needham; Todd Heft; Kathy Petras; Seth Campbell; Jack Young & Detra West

All of the speakers have provided their services pro bono, which has been appreciated.


During the later years, we have included a Myers Briggs Type Indicator Inventory (MBTI) session. Low rope activities have also been added by the Institute for Creative Living, which has been a great addition to the Camp.

Who will I "Hang Out" with at CAMP RYLA?

Upon arrival, campers participate in "ice melters" that will help them get to know the other people at the camp. During this time they will also meet the Counselors (who, for the most part were campers 2 years prior or current college students) and the On-Site Director.

Later on that day, participants, with ten to twelve other campers, will be assigned to their discussion group for the rest of the week. Participants will be in a group of diverse student leaders representing high schools from throughout the Northeastern Ohio area. Teamwork, communication & consensus building are developed as the students face the week's challenges together. Through these experiences they will find they have many things in common with other

participants. These experiences will be the source of many of their camp memories.



FACT:
As students approach graduation, they will be making important decisions which will affect the rest of their lives.

FACT:
Our world needs qualified leaders - leaders who can motivate others, make sound decisions and execute their plans.

FACT:
This generation is the most competitive ever. Without skilled time management and self discipline, they may be left behind.

FACT:
Youth can have all the knowledge in the world, but if it is not properly applied, it will be wasted.

Remember:
Knowledge + Action = Results
CAMP RYLA can help!

Looking to Get Involved with RYLA?

The District RYLA Committee is always looking for members to join. If you want to be a committee member, please contact Marc West, mwest@bw.edu or (440) 826-3483.

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS TO SEND A STUDENT TO RYLA:

1. Establish a Chair for your Club to head up the effort. Send that person's contact information to the District Chair - Marc West (mwest@bw.edu)

2. Visit the District Website for RYLA for promotional materials (letters; brochures and flyers) and the application. Edit it for your Club's use.

3. Determine the amount of participants (no more than two students

from the same high school) that you want to send from your Club.

(Cost is \$500 per participant, so be sure to check if the Club's budget can handle it)

4. Establish a timeline to meet the deadline of May 20, 2019 to submit the application(s).

5. Work with the high schools in your Club's area to generate an interest in sending a participant to the Camp. Provide the high school counselors/staff person with information about the camp to give to students and applications.

6. Select participants:

A. Have the high school counselors/staff person select students to apply and distribute applications.

B. Have the Club's Chair gather the applications from the high schools.

C. The Club selects the participants (some Clubs choose to interview the applicants).

7. We will be using an **ONLINE APPLICATION** process. If you want to send the school a copy of the application is fine, but once the participants have been selected, they must register online with the password that you provide them. At this link, campers will fill out an **APPLICATION** form; a **MEDICAL RELEASE** and **CONSENT, RELEASE AND AUTHORIZATION** forms, and be able to view a **tentative schedule** of activities.

We must receive you check for payment prior to you receiving the password to give to your selected participant(s).

Checks in the amount of \$500 per participant (made payable to Rotary District 6630) should be sent to the District Chair. In the unlikely event that the camp reaches its cap of 65 students prior to your application(s) arriving, you will [Cont'd on pg. 15](#)

RYLA cont'd

be notified immediately, and your Club's check will be returned to you.

8. Have 2 Club members offer to drive the participants to Camp (optional).

9. Have 3 Club members attend the closing banquet on Thursday, June 13, 2019 at 6pm and be prepared to be amazed about your investment in the program for youth!

Make checks payable to:

Rotary District 6630-RYLA

Applications due by May 20, 2019. Applications accepted after 05-21-19, if limits are not exceeded.

If you have questions feel free to call Marc at 440-826-3483 or e-mail mwest@bw.edu

Rotary Fellowships

This is the 7th and final series giving an overview of the Rotary Fellowship of Rotary International.

by PDG Jack A. Young, District 6630 Fellowship Chair

FELLOWSHIP OF SURFERS - With hundreds of Rotarians in over two dozen countries one should consider joining Surfers if you are a 1. Rotarian or Rotaract or Interact member. 2. Enjoy Body surfing, kite surfing 3. body boarding 3. stand up paddle boarding or 4 wind surfing. The fellowship is also involved in shoreline and beach clean up while enjoying traveling the world.

FELLOWSHIP OF TRAVEL AND TRAVEL - The ITHF - exist to promote and facilitate regional, national and international connections between its members. Members are enriched by these connections and cross cultural exchanges.

FELLOWSHIP OF WHISKEY DRINKING ROTARIANS AND MEMBERS - Its purpose to learn more about all of the Whiskies of the world including bourbon, scotch, rye and sour mash. They share their knowledge and experience while learning from the experts.

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF RUNNING AND FITNESS - This fellowship brings together Rotarians brings those together who have a passion for running and sharing information on health and wellness of those involved. The fellowship also sponsors various health runs as a fundraiser to support Rotary Clubs who want to educate their community.

INTERNATIONAL YACHTING FELLOWSHIP - The International Fellowship is the oldest and largest of fellowship that began in 1047 in England. The only requirement is that a member have an active interest in boating (ownership of a boat is not required). Local fleets are located world wide who share ideas to improve seamanship.

YOGA - Wellness meets happiness through Yoga and Meditation Fellowship. They share ideas on the best way to meditate and use Yoga in their daily lives.

In addition to the fellowships mentioned in the Six articles, other fellowships that might be an interest to you include:

Educators, Esperanto, Ethics, Mental Health, Rotary means business, Russian Culture Social Networks, Table Tennis, Total Quality Management Water Polo and Young Rotarians.

It should be noted that in order to remain active, Fellowships must continually have members. Therefore, over the years, Rotary Fellowships have come and gone through interest and lack of membership. However, there are still over 75 active Fellowships for Rotarians, Spouses, Rotaract and Interact along with family members to become involved. All we tried to do is give a brief overview and information on the types of Fellowships you can become involved in based upon your own interest and skills. All of the fellowship exist to provide Service Above Self support to all throughout the world. (If you know of a fellowship that may have been missed in the seven articles, please let me know. (Jack)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON FELLOWSHIPS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ROTARY INTERNATIONAL OR PDG JACK YOUNG, ROTARY DISTRICT 6630 FELLOWSHIP CHAIR.(440-759-4000 or Jack1villa@aol.com)



Save the Children

Silent Auction and Dinner

Baldwin Wallace University's Ballroom

6:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.



All proceeds go to the "Save the Children Fund" to reach every last child through international programs that focus on health, education, protection and disaster relief

If you have any questions, please email Blake Lewis at bllewis15@bw.edu



INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF

Rotary Club of Akron raises over \$286,000 at 29th Chili Open

Rotary Club of Akron raises over \$286,000 with the 29th Annual Chili Open Golf Classic to benefit Rotary Camp for Children with Special Needs.

Mild temperatures returned just in time for this year's Chili Open Golf Classic, held on Saturday, February 2, at Hale Farm and Village, in Bath, Ohio. Over 550 golfers and volunteers attended Akron Rotary's 29th annual Chili Open presented by Wayne Homes.



Foursome enjoying their 9-holes of golf.

The snow-covered grounds of Hale Farm were transformed into five unique 9-hole golf courses that ranged from 65-125 yards. Golfers were challenged to drive shots across tundra and putt balls laden with ice. Golf contests included closest to the pin, hole-in-one, miniature golf and putt-putt. After a round of golf, guests enjoyed Whitey's Chili and beverages in the clubhouse to warm up. A few attendees took part in a 2.5lb Chili Eating Competition where the winner walked away with a Stihl Leaf blower, courtesy of Akron Tractor and some bragging rights.



Chili Open Check Presentation – Akron Rotary Club President John Margida, Akron Rotary Camp President, Pamela Kiltau, Chili Open Co-Chairs Dr. Rob McGregor and Wanda Whipkey

The day was a huge success raising over \$286,000 benefiting Akron Rotary Camp for Children with Special Needs. Annually, the net proceeds from the Chili Open provide financial support to families in need. The Rotary Club and Camp are committed to never letting a family's personal financial resources prevent a camper from attending Rotary Camp – no child is ever turned away! Last year, Akron Rotary Camp provided over \$240,000 in direct financial assistance and served 1,800 children through their summer camp and year round respite programs.



PDG Stew Buchanan, Past Akron Rotary Club President Julie Brandle, and PDG Governor David Skrzyński staying warm inside the Clubhouse

"The mission of Akron Rotary Camp is creating a world where there are only abilities! We believe that everyone who comes to camp has the opportunity to do the impossible. Whether it's their first time away from home, a first canoe ride, catching a fish for the first time or singing their first camp song. We strive to provide opportunities that will help them grow," Dan Reynolds, Executive Director of Camping Services at Akron Rotary Camp.

This year's Chili Open committee were dedicated that was driven to surpass our event goal of \$275,000 with sponsorships, foursomes, clubhouse passes, raffle ticket sales and volunteers. "We are extremely grateful to all Rotarians, sponsors and donors who helped to make a difference in the lives of our campers through this year's Chili Open!" John Margida, President, Rotary Club of Akron.

Also, our club members enjoyed visit-



Golfer teeing off hole #1!

ing many clubs in our district to promote the Chili Open and Akron Rotary Camp. A special thank you to members who purchased raffle tickets in helping us to reach our goal. Congratulations to the raffle ticket winners (tickets were drawn at the Chili Open):

1st Prize: Jim Durr (Akron Rotarian) – 2019 Chevrolet Sonic LS from The VanDevere Bunch

2nd Prize: Mark Hamlin – 55" 4k Smart LED TV, courtesy of S Group, Inc.

3rd Prize: Robert Minster – FOX Sports Ohio/ SportsTime Ohio Behind-the-Scenes Media Package at a 2019 Cleveland Indians Game

SNOWMANIA: Shelley Koutnik

Please Save the Date for the 30th Anniversary of Akron Rotary's Chili Open Golf Classic scheduled for Saturday, February 1, 2020. We are planning a big celebration and hope to see you there!

Dr. Rob McGregor and Wanda Whipkey Co-Chairs, 2019 Chili Open Golf Classic

Time to Shift Our Focus Away from Polio

William Shaul, M.D., M.P.H.*
Rotary Club of Aurora and Streetsboro

Rotary deserves a great deal of credit for all of the work it has done in the effort to reduce the incidence of polio in the world. There are now fewer than 10 new cases of polio each year worldwide. While important eradication work continues, there are 1.2 million childhood deaths each year from lower respiratory infections (pneumonia), 1.5 million deaths from diarrheal disease, and at least as many from childhood malaria, malnutrition, injuries, etc. In 2018 there were over 300,000 cases of measles, representing approximately 4000 childhood deaths! In many of those countries not only is there a Rotary presence but also there exist basic technology and infrastructure that could address these problems—especially when coupled with adequate funding and political will (local and national). Ongoing focus on polio eradication deflects energy, funding, planning and commitment away from other more pressing maternal and child health problems. While there is some concern that polio may re-emerge, WHO and other international agencies have the technology and infrastructure in place to maintain surveillance of polio; we would be able to act quickly if significant re-emergence does occur. Rotary has a wonderful tradition of building partnerships among clubs in North Amer-

ica/Europe and clubs in the Third World. Clubs closest to the preventable and treatable child health problems are clearly in the best position to determine priorities and to guide the most appropriate use of funds. That said, there are some general principles that have been successful in reducing infant deaths from just three important problems—pneumonia, diarrheal disease, and measles:

Reducing Deaths from Pneumonia

- **Vaccination programs** (*S. pneumoniae* and *H. influenzae*-- two of the most common bacterial causes of pneumonia in children)
- **Vigilant use of antibiotics** (to use antibiotics appropriately, thus avoiding overuse and increased antibiotic resistance)
- Better **supportive care** for children who get pneumonia, including the availability of oxygen

Reducing Deaths from Diarrhea

- Improvement in **water and sanitation** (an existing of priority Rotary International)
- **Rotavirus vaccination** of infants (rotavirus is a major cause of severe diarrhea in infants)
- Education and emphasis on **handwashing** (assuming clean water is available!)

- Increased availability of **oral re-hydration solutions with zinc** supplements
- **Reducing Deaths from Measles**
- Widespread **education regarding the safety** of measles vaccination
- Organize massive **public health immunization campaigns** in countries suffering the most

I fully realize that the suggestion to move away from polio work borders on the heretical in Rotary, given the amount of energy and commitment members have devoted to this effort over the past few decades. I honor those men and women in Rotary who have given so much to that successful effort. I would now invite us to join other international agencies in bringing the same degree of energy and focus on problems that are currently causing the deaths of millions of children—especially those that are preventable with vaccines and low-level technology.

*Retired Pediatrician and Family Physician, former Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Global Health (Maternal and Child Health in Developing Countries) at the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

News From TRC Painesville

Thanks to our guests Dan and Becky Garry and Eileen Cicero with Painesville Rotary for appearing on Tuesday's edition of "They Sacrificed for Us" They gave us great insight on the great things Rotary does in our community and our world.



Bob Fratino is with Daniel Garry and 2 others. Yesterday at 9:25 PM

Thanks to Eileen Cicero from Cicero Hair & Nails and Dan Garry from Painesville Rotary for their generous donations to the American Legion's support of Volunteers of America's Veterans program.



Pancakes in Burton

Rotary Pancake Breakfast Our 67th Year!

The Rotary Club of Burton-Middlefield will be presenting their 67th. consecutive AYCE pancake breakfast every Sunday in March (5 this year) at the Berkshire High School. AYCE pancakes also include sausage, juice, milk, coffee for \$8 (adults) \$5 (children) and can include a generous omelet for \$4 more (\$12). Serving from 8:00AM to 1:00PM. 14510 N. Cheshire St. Burton, OH 44021

ALSO - Join the excitement and enter the new Maple Splash Raffle at the pancake breakfast. Incredible prizes!



Burton Middlefield Rotary Club

Maple Splash Raffle!

Enter the Maple Splash Raffle!
Tickets \$10 - *Only 2000 will be sold*
YOU COULD WIN:
A New 4x4 from Just for Fun Honda
A 55" LG UHD SMART TV
from RadioActive Electronics
\$1000 Cash - \$500 Cash
2 tickets will be instant \$250 Winners!

8:00 am ~ 1:00 pm

Every Sunday in March
AT BERKSHIRE HIGH SCHOOL
14519 NORTH CHESHIRE 44021

Contact : Larry Fox

Larry@KBRSolutionsinc.com

Rotary 2019 Water Delegation

El Rodeo Inauguration Celebration

Friday, June 21st – Wednesday, June 26th

Overview

The purpose of this delegation is for Rotarians to participate in the inauguration of the Water Distribution System of the community of El Rodeo, Cabañas, El Salvador. To share in this great achievement of solidarity amongst people of different nations coming together with the purpose of providing potable water using clean energy to this village in the northern part of El Salvador.

This will also be a great opportunity to see the advancement in two other solar power distribution systems being supported by Rotary and that are being implemented and to learn firsthand about the successes and challenges of providing potable water in Central America. This will also be an opportunity to learn more of the culture and history of the amazing country of El Salvador.

Yunior Gomez, CoCoDA El Salvador Director, and other CoCoDA staff will serve as tour hosts and guides. Although the tour is geared to adult Rotarians, non-Rotarians and children are welcome.

Highlights

A day and a half in San Salvador with historic and cultural orientation with visits to museums and Archbishop Oscar Romero sites.

Sightseeing trip to Joya de Ceren Mayan ruins (UNESCO SITE).

Visits to 2 CoCoDA – Rotary Water Projects being implemented.

Inauguration of the El Rodeo Water Project.

One day in the colonial town of Suchitoto

Great food and conversation with CoCoDA staff, Salvadorans and your fellow travelers.

Cost

\$550 per person plus airfare.

This fee covers all expenses other than snacks and souvenirs.

Requirements

A current passport and an insatiable curiosity.

Reservations

Individuals wishing to attend the Rotary 2019 Water Delegation should fill out the registration form. A non-refundable deposit of \$150 can be sent to CoCoDA, 5055 W. 15th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46224 or paid via the PayPal button at www.cocoda.org.

Reservation Deadline: May 1st, 2019.
(Limited to first twenty registrants)

The Rotary Club of Kent invites you to El Salvador for a Life Changing Experience

Save the date for Global Youth Service Day

From **12-14 April**, young leaders from around the world will come together for the largest service event in the world, Global Youth Service Day. In addition to the service projects and celebration events, this year Global Youth Service Day encourages young people to become activists and advocates to address root causes of problems through policy change.

Get ideas for how you can take action on Global Youth Service Day!

LEARN MORE >



Rotary and Easterseals: Celebrating 100 Years

Rotary's first social enterprise project took place in 1919 when the foundation of what is known today as Easterseals took place in response to a horrific local tragedy.

A fatal streetcar accident that killed the 18-year-old son of future Elyria, Ohio Rotarian Edgar Allen started a series of events that resulted in the later establishment of the Ohio Society for Crippled Children (OSCC) by the Rotary Clubs of Elyria, Cleveland and Toledo in 1919. After the accident, Allen, a local businessman and future Rotarian, recognized that adequate medical facilities probably would have been a critical resource for those affected. He soon began fundraising, leading to the establishment of a 36-bed hospital known as Elyria Memorial Hospital. Allen then turned his efforts toward raising funds to open the nation's first hospital dedicated to the care of children with physical disabilities. Gates Hospital opened in 1915.

Building on that achievement, Allen had a vision of an organization that would provide community-based aid

for children with disabilities. He turned to his fellow Rotarians to get it done, speaking to clubs in the region to solicit support.

On April 22, 1919, Rotarians from the Elyria, Cleveland and Toledo clubs created the OSCC. Allen was named president of the organization, and all board members were Rotarians. By June 1920, 22 Ohio Rotary clubs had become members of the OSCC.

In the same year, Allen approached members of the Ohio Legislature who introduced two bills aimed at providing state funding for the hospitalized children's medical care and their education needs while away from home. A spirited debate ensued, but an immense response from Rotarians across the state contacted their representatives in a matter of days. On August 21, 1910, "The Ohio Plan" as it was named passed. It was the first bill of its kind to finance children's health and educational needs. Similar legislation passed from state to state as Rotarians used the model to move the challenges forward.

A year later, during a meeting of the OSCC, Allen joined with Paul Harris and district governors in Ohio, New York and Pennsylvania, to expand its efforts, forming the National Society for Crippled Children (NSCC). Allen was named president. The organization became the International Society for Crippled Children (ISCC) in 1922. Harris was the first chairman of the board.

As Rotary grew across the United States, so did Easterseals. And as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary this spring with an April 6th Gala at the Cleveland Museum of Art, and a Centennial Luncheon in Elyria on April 22nd, Sheila Dunn, 2000-2001 President of the Strongsville Rotary Club and President & CEO of Easterseals Northern Ohio invites fellow Rotarians to join Easterseals celebrations in our region.

For a presentation on the Rotary / Easterseals history to your local Club, contact Sheila at sdunn@estersealsnoh.com or call 800.325.8532.



Capture the Moment at the Hamburg convention from Saturday June 1st to Wednesday June 5th 2019

Important deadlines

- 31 March 2019:** Last day for preregistration discount
- 30 April 2019:** Last day to request to cancel registrations or tickets
- 5 June 2019:** Last day for online registration

Registration fees

Register early to take advantage of discounted rates. Go to [registration fees](#) for information about rates, cancellations, and refunds, and what your registration includes.

Register NOW Rotary International Convention <http://www.riconvention.org/en/hamburg>

Hotels are filling up, [book yours today](#) <http://www.riconvention.org/en/hamburg/accommodations>

Ticket availability: [Hamburg Host Organization Committee events](#) are starting to sell out. Secure your spot for the dance and music performances, bike tours, host hospitality night, and other wonderful activities by purchasing tickets soon.

Don't miss your chance to **Capture the Moment** on June 1st with your fellow Rotarians from Zones 28 and 29. This will be our last Harrah with our current paired zones and will provide us with Food, Drinks and FUN!!! at Gröninger Privatbrauerei, Willy-Brandt-Str. 47. [To register, "Register Here"](#)

Come and meet the Rotarians from our new Zone 30-31 on Sunday June 2nd at the Hofbräuhaus Hofbräu Wirtshaus, Esplanade 6, Hamburg, Germany [To register, "Register Here"](#)



Hamburg Convention

Capture the Moment at the Hamburg convention

Don't miss your chance to **Capture the Moment** at the 2019 Rotary Convention in Hamburg, Germany with your fellow Rotarians

Zones 28 & 29 Northland Beer Fest

When: Saturday, June 1, 6:00 p.m.
Where: Gröninger Privatbrauerei, Willy-Brandt-Str. 47.
Who: All Rotarians, Guests and Friends of Zones 28 & 29
What: Food, Drinks and FUN!!! Registration for the event includes an entire meal featuring meat loaf, sausages, pork, ribs, salad, dessert and your beverages too! Attire is casual.
Cost: \$70 per person until February 1 when the \$5 early bird discount ends.

[To register, "Register Here"](#)



Zones 30-31 Fellowship Event Hamburg

When: Sunday, June 2, 6:00pm till 10:00pm *Facility is open till 1am for your enjoyment*
Where: Hofbräuhaus Hofbräu Wirtshaus, Esplanade 6, Hamburg, Germany.
Who: All Rotarians, Guests and Friends of Zones 30 - 31 and District 6630 Rotarians
What: The food will be served buffet style to the table- each table will receive: Landbrot, Radi, Emmentaler, butter, Bavarian potato salad, Leberkase, meat plant, GroBtl "pan" Crispy fried potatoes with onions, beans, colorful peppers and wild mushrooms, Apple Streudal with vanilla sauce
Cost: \$50 per person Open bar is included in the price.

[To register, "Register Here"](#)



TRC Cleveland Sponsors Rotary Peace Fellow

We are pleased to announce that Wisdom Addo sponsored by the Rotary Club of Cleveland has been accepted as a Rotary Peace Fellow in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan, starting in September 2019. This rigorous two-year program will lead to an MA degree and enhance Mr. Addo's work to promote peace and justice in his native Ghana. Our district was at the forefront of the formation of the Rotary Peace Fellowship program when 2000-2001 District Governor Jim Frame of the Rotary Club of Mantua stood on the stage at the RI Convention in San Antonio representing us as one of the few charter districts from around the Rotary world who supported the development of the World Peace Fellow Program. We have sponsored thirteen Peace Fellows over the years. Current Peace Fellows include Ali Hassan Fahimi sponsored by the Rotary Club of Solon, studying at the University of Bradford, and Javid Ahmadi sponsored by the Rotary Club of Cuyahoga Falls, studying at International Christian University.

Wisdom Addo grew up in Ghana, in a community where aggression, racism, tribalism and sexism were part of his daily routines. He has personally experienced and witnessed many acts of domestic and non-domestic violence and child abuse. His experiences of hostility and injustice in his community led him to realize that the environment in which young people grow up affects their long-term attitudes and behaviors negatively or positively. This realization, combined with his discomfort with violence and abuse in general, inspired him to pursue the diplomatic path of helping build peace and stability in schools and communities in Ghana.

Mr. Addo has a background in Peace and Conflict Prevention and Resolution. He is a seasoned youth facilitator with many years of experience working with young people, in schools and communities. He is the Founder and Executive Director of the West Africa Centre for Peace

Foundation (WACPF), which reaches out to youth and their teachers to teach them to recognize problems and then mobilizes them to take peaceful actions to solve those problems. He has been following teaching protocols developed by Peace Jam Foundation (a U.S. Foundation) and has held Peace Jam youth conferences in Ghana and Liberia. Over the years, Mr. Addo estimates he has reached over 4,000 students, many of whom have continued to be involved and have stayed in contact with him and other teachers in his programs. He insures that his efforts are sustainable by training two teachers in each of the schools he works with on Peace Jam methodologies.

Professionally he has been trained in the field both nationally and internationally. His formal training in Mediation, Conflict Analysis and Peace-Building is from the Central European University, the Network University (with online studies with the United State Institute of Peace), and he also attended the West Africa Computer Science Institute where he obtained his bachelor's degree in Computer Science (awarded by the Association of Computer Professionals (ACP) United Kingdom).



Mr. Addo participated in the Rotary Peace Fellow Professional Development Certificate Program at the Rotary Peace Center at Chulalongkorn University in 2012. That experience inspired him to continue his work because he learned basic skills needed for conflict resolution and benefitted from networking with people from around the world as well as from his field experience in Nepal. After returning to Accra, he used those skills to motivate students to take action on

various problems. For instance, there was a cholera outbreak in Ghana. Mr. Addo mobilized his students to clean up an area where the disease was prevalent and to educate the community about ways to prevent the illness. He also mobilized the students to create awareness about illegal gold mining in Ghana, which has now been minimized.

The Rotary Clubs of Cleveland and Akron have followed Mr. Addo's work since 2013 when he was a speaker at the Clubs and have provided several small grants to help support his programs. Most recently, the Rotary Club of Cleveland provided funding for transportation for students in Accra to attend last November's Peace Jam. Mr. Addo has been involved in a number of Rotary projects, including participating in various conferences and Peace Symposium including in Brazil in 2015.

Each year, Rotary International awards up to 100 fully funded fellowships for dedicated leaders from around the world to study at one of its peace centers. Through academic training, practice, and global networking opportunities, the Rotary Peace Centers program develops the fellows into experienced and effective catalysts for peace. The fellowships cover tuition and fees, room and board, round-trip transportation, and all internship and field-study expenses. In just over a decade, the Rotary Peace Centers have trained more than 1,200 fellows. Many of them now serve as leaders at international organizations or have started their own foundations. Interested candidates should contact District 6630 Rotary Peace Fellowships Chair, Rick Pollak at grantmakingservices@gmail.com

or at 330/650-9005. The deadline to submit an application for District 6630 sponsorship to become a Peace Fellow for the 2020-21 academic year is May 15, 2019. For more information, click on this link: <https://rotarydistrict6630.org/sitepage/rotary-peace-fellowships>.

News From TRC Berea



Kim Harris of Pathway Caring for Children explains the foster care program.

Agency Helps Children in Need

Strongsville Rotarian Kim Harris says she spent 36 years in corporate sales but “wasn’t feeling I was making an impact. I was burned out.” She quit her job and found herself at Pathways Caring for Children.

The private, non-profit social service agency supports “children who are broken and need better homes,” Harris said. Pathways began in 1973 with a group home in Stark County. It has grown into a multi-faceted organization to aid children and families with a wide range of services from foster care and adoption to post foster care support for teens and mental health services for kids, families and schools.

“The reasons children go into foster care are changing,” Harris said. Drug-addicted parents are a main reason; homelessness is another. She said Pathway Caring for Children has a three-part mantra – Rescue – Nurture – Launch. Take children out of dangerous and unhealthy situations, place them in a loving environment and prepare them to enter adulthood.

Volunteers at Pathway can help in a variety of ways, she said: Donate school supplies, organize fundraisers, plan parties and events for foster kids, help in the office, donate gift cards to purchase clothing for children who often arrive with only the clothes they are wearing.

Pathway offers Quick Stop Tours on the first Tuesday of every month. The next tour is noon to 1 p.m. on April 2. A light lunch is provided. Pathway is at 5131 W. 140th St. in Brook Park. Contact Kim at khar-

ris@pathwaycfc.org or call (216) 267-7070.

For more information, go to www.pathwaycfc.org



Ray Bartlett and guest speaker Jim Lechko

Ray Bartlett receives Boy Scout Award

Congratulations to Berea Rotarian Ray Bartlett, who received the Silver Antelope Award from the Lake Erie Council of Boy Scouts last Saturday during an awards banquet. Ray said about 350 volunteers were honored with 15 receiving the Silver Beaver Award, which Ray had received in the past, as has Bob Huge. Ray was given the Silver Antelope Award to recognize his 76 years in Scouting. The actual award will be presented to him during the national convention in Denver later this year.

“Service to youth – that’s what it’s all about,” Ray said.

IN MEMORIAM Marilyn J. Deucher 1938-2019

Long-time Berea Rotarian Marilyn J. Deucher, wife of the late Gerald W. Deucher, and sister of Evelyn Barnes passed away on March 6.

Marilyn was a past president of Berea Rotary and a Paul Harris Fellow. She chaired the Dictionary Project and, in the past, the Spring Flower Fundraiser.

Graveside services were Monday, March 11 at Sunset Memorial Park, North Olmsted. Memorial contributions to Berea Rotary Scholarship Fund.



PDG Jack Young and Karen Ramba of Caring Transitions

How to Get Rid of ‘Stuff’ You Think You Need But Don’t

“We accumulate things when we live in one place for a long time,” Karen Ramba told Berea Rotarians on Tuesday, Feb. 5. In reality, “your money is in your home, not in your stuff,” she said.

If you’re planning to sell your house, downsize when the kids are gone, take care of a parent’s things after they’re gone or just declutter, it could take up to a year to see the end of the project. That where Ramba and Caring Transitions can help. The company can help clear the clutter in two to three weeks, she said, either by giving advice or actually moving the stuff themselves.

“We pack it, move it, unpack it,” Ramba said. “And make sure the appliances and the TV work.”

“You’ve earned the right to live your life gracefully and not worry about your stuff or your home,” she said.

She advises homeowners to do research and evaluate their space, especially all those things stored in “the spare room.” There are several ways to deal with items you don’t want or need any longer: Gift it – Sell it – Donate it – Recycle it – Trash it.

“Ask yourself, “Why do I have this? If it brings you joy, keep it,” Ramba said.

She recommends that homeowners evaluating their items start small. Begin with a closet

Cont’d on pg. 22 

TRC Berea cont'd

or a drawer. Pace yourself. Don't do it all at once. She also goes by this rule of thumb – OHIO (Only Handle It Once). Pick an item, evaluate whether you want it. If not put it in the pile to give it away or sell it. Do don't second-guess yourself. "Planning makes for a successful transition," she said.


Caring Transitions is based in Olmsted Township. You can reach them at (440) 508-4957.



Spirit of Community Banquet

Thanks to all of the Rotarians who attended the City of Berea's Spirit of Community Banquet on Jan. 22. Three of the volunteers honored were Rotarians Don Voigt and Jim Slater,

who are wintering in Florida, and Linda Kramer. They volunteer with Berea's Veterans Outreach Office.




The Rotary Club of Berea presents

An Evening with

BOB DIBIASIO

Senior Vice President, Public Affairs



Tuesday, April 9
Doors open 6 p.m.
Dinner served 6:30 p.m.
Program at 7 p.m.

Colony Room, Strosacker Hall
On the campus of Baldwin Wallace University
120 Tressel St., Berea

\$15 per person
RSVP by April 2 to Judy Stull, (440) 476-2473
jasdq1@gmail.com



Come One, Come All to the Carnival!

That's right, the immensely popular Interact carnival will be back at this year's District Conference! Come and try your hand at these popular games that will be run by the students of District 6630's Interact Clubs. The carnival will take place immediately follow-

ing the Youth Luncheon on Saturday, April 13th at the Cleveland Airport Marriott. This is an excellent opportunity to "interact" first hand with our district's youth while playing games and having a great time. The most popular carnival game will win a prize for that game's club, and you could help determine who will win! Let loose and have fun at the carnival

after hearing about the accomplishments of our youth during the Youth Luncheon earlier that day. Try your hand at West Geauga's infamous toilet paper toss! Play limbo and musical chairs with students from Stow! Guess how many items are stuffed into the jar that the Aurora kids bring! And so much more. See you all there!

