



DISTRICT 6840 NEWSLETTER



<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/50136>

April 2018

Table of Contents

Page	
2	Rotary Bunny Fest
3	Interact
4	Youth Exchange
5	Friendship Exchange
6	BSL Rotary and Metairie Fun Run
7-8	Rotary In Action
9	Multi-District Conf. Fun Run
10	Matching Points Campaign
11	Events / Rotary Club of New Orleans



Goodbye Polio!

The Gates Foundation is matching all Rotarian Raised Polio Donations \$2 for each \$1 Contributed (Up to \$50 Mil/Yr.)

Our Rotary-wide 2017-18 Rotary Year Polio Fundraising Goal is \$50 Million + the \$2 for \$1 Gates Foundation Match

Our Goal is Global Polio Eradication!

Advocate, Donate & Educate to END POLIO NOW & FOREVER!

"Quarter Pill Bottle Campaign"

continues until June 30, 2018!

Several clubs have already done a project or event for Polio Plus. If you have not reported this to me and Rotary Club Central, please do this as soon as possible!

Short Notes

We are approaching the final quarter of the 2017-2018 Rotary Year and it has been a rewarding experience visiting our District 6840 Clubs for the second time. From February 29 thru March 31 I have completed twenty five club visits and enjoyed every one!



I am proud to report our District has made remarkable progress since July 1st and membership numbers are strong. As of April 1st we had increased our District membership by ten. That figure may seem a minor number since we were once up over twenty but remember clubs have been diligent in editing their rolls and welcoming new members into service. One club added twenty members to their club by adding a satellite club and those members moving to full membership.

The Spring Matching Points campaign is off to a good start and please note I am extending the deadline for donations to MAY 30.

Please encourage members to register for the Multi-District Conference and the events attached to the Conference: Golf Tournament, Polio Plus Fun Run and recently added Candlelight Peace Vigil which will be held at the Biloxi Town Green following the Food Fest.

We need clubs to register for the Food Fest with name of country they will be representing, food they are providing and any necessary electrical or water requests. Our Alabama Districts are looking to partner with our local clubs to make monetary contributions to cover extra food preparations and need to know which clubs are participating.

The Conference is building a fantastic raffle/silent auction and accepting club donations. Also we are looking for door prizes to be awarded to conference attendees. Assistant Governors are available to answer questions and collect items.

Make your plans now to attend the Rotary International Convention in Toronto! It will be an experience of a lifetime. I will be speaking on Polio Plus Fundraising at a breakout session on Monday, June 25th at 3:30 presenting our District 6840 promotions and those of my Governor Classmates.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Multi-District Conference June 7-10!!

DG Kathy Short

Calendar of Events

May 12 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM
District Training Assembly
Long Beach Rec. Center
Long Beach, MS

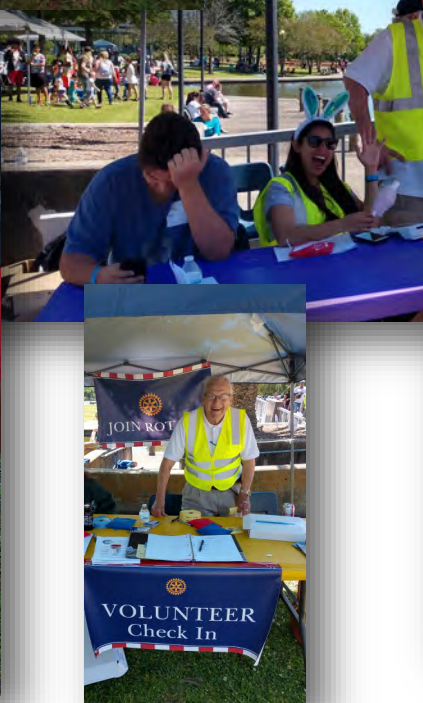
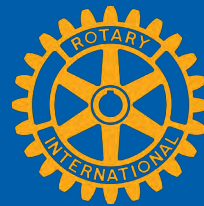
June 7-10 Multi-District Conference
Biloxi, MS

July 15-20 RYLA Conference
Loranger, LA

District Governor Club Visits for May

May 1 Slidell Northshore
May 2 New Orleans
May 3 St Bernard
Central Hancock
May 8 Picayune
May 9 Pascagoula
May 10 Kentwood
May 15 Pass Christian
May 17 Metairie Sunrise
Metairie

Rotary Club of Metairie Sunrisers Bunny Fest 2018!





Interact: Planting Tomorrow's Future

Fenwick Swann



"On March 3, 2018, the Hancock County Performing Arts Center played host to the 2017-2018 District 6840 Interact Conference. Thanks to the sponsorship of District, several Rotary

Clubs, and the volunteering of Rotary Members from across the district, our Interact Conference was a great success.

During the one day conference, over 125 students from 10 Interact clubs, got to learn about all of the Youth Services that Rotary has to offer. The student, and their club sponsors, were addressed by our District Governor



Kathie Short, and given information on RYLA (Rotary Youth Services Awards), Rotaract, Rotary Youth Exchange, and the international reach of Interact.

The students helped to make the world a better place by participating in a service project, led by Rotarians Christine Trevette and Jennifer Osburn, where they made wildflower seed pods for distribution around the district. They were further able to participate in discussion groups on anti-bullying, harassment and violence prevention with Dr. Joan Archer.

At the end of the day, each club was given the opportunity to compete in a talent competition, and given a little time to share their club's 2017-2018 accomplishments with the gathered assembly. Awards were given to Gulfport High School for the best project board and Hahnville High School for Interact's Got Talent Competition. Additional awards were given for two students in the district that most exemplified the ethos of "Service Above Self". These students were named Mr. and Miss Interact. The 2018 Mr.



Interact is Christopher Bruni from Gulfport High School, and 2018 Miss Interact was Morgan Duncan from Hammond High Magnet.

Overall, the Conference was a great way for us, as Rotarians, to plant the seed of Service above Self in the minds of our next generation. Thank you to every Rotarian, and non-Rotarian volunteer who came together

to make this conference such an important, and meaningful gathering.





Rotary Youth Exchange 2018-19

Elizabeth Van Sant

On Wednesday, March 28, our Outbound students met with the Consul General of France in New Orleans, Mr. Vincent Sciamia for training on diplomacy. More than "just" spending a year abroad as Rotary Youth Exchange students, these teenagers and an elite group of 8000 others worldwide serve as Rotary Goodwill Ambassadors with the specific and lofty mandate of "building international peace, goodwill, and understanding." Every student selected to represent Rotary receives extensive training prior to their exchange, no matter where in the world they come from or where in the world they are going. Rotarians who serve on Youth Exchange Committees actively mentor the students from the moment they express an interest all the way through their departure and even after they return.

It is never too late to become involved with this program as

an individual, as a club, and as a district. We have three students arriving this fall for the 2018-2019 school year. If you would like to host, as a family or as a club, please email RYE6840@gmail.com

Our students are excellent representatives of their families, communities, region, and of Rotary. During the month of May, our Inbound Students Armand (France, St Charles Parish); Iida (Finland, Slidell/Slidell Northshore), and Sofya (Russia, Bay St Louis) are all available to speak to your club. They, and the outbounds pictured above, will all be at Friday Food Fest and the District Conference in June. Please take the time to meet them and do your part to build international goodwill and better friendships. As past RI President Carl Wilhelm Stenhammar said, "If we could have every seventeen year old be an exchange student, we would have no more wars."



Pictured above are current Inbound student from France, Armand (hosted by RC of St Charles Parish), Press Attache Bridget Stanga, Outbound student to Colombia, Felice (Covington), Outbound Summer Program Rebekah (Covington), Consul General of France in New Orleans Vincent Sciamia, Outbound Summer Program Kayla (St Charles Parish), Outbound student to Thailand, Ruthie (Bay St Louis), Outbound student to Romania, Sofia (Covington).

Multi-District Conference

June 7-10, 2018



Vicky Gutierrez

Do you have a project, event, or organization you would like to promote at the District Conference? Why not sign up for a table at the House of Friendship? Registration forms on the Conference website, or, contact Cree Cantrell @ cree.cantrell@edwardjones.com

Would you like to participate in our Conference Hands on Project? We plan on filling goody bags for needy women and children who have been displaced. Or, would you like to fill seed pods to help the environment? Contact Kathie Short @ kathieghshortrotary6840@gmail.com for more info on the seed pods and Vicky Gutierrez @ vickygut6840@cableone.net for more information on the goody bags.

Did you hear about the table decorating contest at the Food Fest? Trophies awarded to first, second, and third place. For more information go to the conference website, or, contact Vicky Gutierrez, Conference Chair, vice chair.

ATTENTION ALL CLUB PRESIDENTS AND SECRETARIES

Reminder – All club presidents and secretaries were sent a video on the district conference via email at the end of January. We ask that you show this to your club members as soon as possible. Thank you for all you do for Rotary!



Reserve Your Room ASAP!

Anyone wishing to stay at the Beau Rivage for the District Conference in June should consider making their room reservations now.

We only have a limited number of rooms blocked at \$149 for Wednesday, Thursday, and Sunday, and \$199 for Friday and Saturday. Rooms are going for \$349 outside of our Rotary block. When the block is gone the higher price will prevail.



Karen Babin

A Rotary Friendship Exchange visit to **Santa Fe** is available for about 6 days in late September-early October, for a maximum of 10-12 visitors! Santa Fe will be “home base” for exploring local fascinating destinations, cultural venues, Los Alamos, etc.

The plans are basically home-stays with Rotarians, “Bed & Breakfast style.” Local Rotarians will provide transportation. Visitors are responsible for their personal expenses, admissions to museums, etc., Rotary meeting meals, and meals on their own.

It is a great opportunity to make new Rotary friends and enjoy special features and events known only to the folks who live there! Rotarians interested in this trip, PLEASE get in touch!

Karen Babin, 2017-2018 Friendship Exchange Coordinator ksbabin@gmail.com

504-875-4342, 518-588-9096 (mobile)

Making A Difference: Rotary Club of Bay St. Louis

Rotary Club of Metairie: 8th Annual 5K/10K Fun Run!

Ashley Maylay

To say Rotary makes a difference is an understatement. Rotary changes the world – for the better. When RI President Ian H.S. Riseley challenged our club, along with every other club in the world, to make a difference by planting a tree for each of its members, we got right to work. With our club having approximately 100 members, we knew we needed ideas and fast. Fortunately, we have top



notch folks who knew exactly what to do.

We partnered with one of our local high schools club, Bay High Interact Club, along the City of Waveland to plant 40 trees in their new town green space. Led by our very own eco-friendly architect, Allison Anderson, we secured trees that were sure to grow in our warm, humid environment and began our project. In a matter of hours, we had those bad boys planted and looking good!

Not only did we totally nail tree planting, we also had members who volunteered their time in our local Special Olympics. It was truly a beautiful thing to see their smiling faces as they competed in a variety of Olympic-type sports; adults and children were able to experience the joy of being part of a team, sharing their special gifts and unique skills all while making new friends.

Saturday, March 10th was definitely a busy day for the Rotary Club of Bay St. Louis, but we wouldn't have had it any other way. Stay green my special friends – see what I did there



Amanda Bennett

The Rotary Club of Hammond, Louisiana is proud to proclaim their 8th annual 5K/10K fun run a huge success. The entire community looks forward to this event every year and comes out to participate in the fun by wearing costumes and racing to beat the Leprechaun! This year was the 2nd largest ever with over 600 runners. The SLU Rotaract club and the Hammond High Interact Club, both sponsored by Hammond Rotary, came out to volunteer. Thanks to the efforts of the President Elect, Brandon Recotta, this club will be well funded for next years grants and projects.



Pictured above are Club President Michelle Gallo, Hammond Mayor Pete Panepinto, Leprechaun Jason Thompson, President Elect Brandon Recotta, and Rotarian Ed Burns.

District 6840 In ACTION

RIGHT: The Rotary Hattiesburg-Sunrise recently completed a district grant in conjunction with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) at Camp Tiak. Camp Tiak is located in Fruitland Park along Highway 49 in South Mississippi. Dr Doug Thomas of the Hattiesburg-Sunrise helped coordinate construction of a wooden fence along a parking lot to improve the entrance appearance as well as increase safety of the area. District funds along with club resources and a team of 10 volunteers, constructed the wooden fence with aid from BSA staff.



MIDDLE RIGHT: Rotarian Josh Byram (far left) introduces guest speaker, Liz Rayfield, Process Engineer for Chevron Ornite. Liz presented The Engineers Without Borders (EWB) "Visan, Guatemala Water Project". EWB's mission is to build a better world through engineering projects that empower communities to meet their basic human needs and equip leaders to solve the world's most pressing challenges. Pictured is also Club President, Bill Bubrig!



Rotary Club of Poplarville



ABOVE: Members of the Rotary Club of Poplarville and personnel from Pearl River Community College cut the ribbon Wednesday, February 28, on Rotary Park at the PRCC Wellness Center. The club purchased 37 live oak, nuttall oak and willow oak trees along with picnic tables and benches which PRCC staff planted and installed around the walking track. Additional improvements will be made in the future, said Dr. Becky Askew, chair of the Rotary Park Committee. The club has met weekly at Pearl River since its establishment in 1926. The photo includes: Heath Martin, Justin Clark, Phillip Poindexter, Jimmy Griffith, Karla Lee, Connie Carver, Dawn Gautreaux, Brennan Grant, Ricky Thomas, Justin Hood, Cynthia, Schafer, Christina Miller, Carolyn Tedford, Nita Gilpin, Tony Kite, Randy Morris, Shay Emelio, Irene Schulz, Clyde Dease, Jack Grubbs, Shawn Keener, Ernie Lovell, Becky Askew, Steve Howard, Sharman Ladner, Laurie Jaufre, Archie Rawls, Tara Rouse, John Grant, Gwen Grant, and David Cuevas.

In ACTION

District 6840

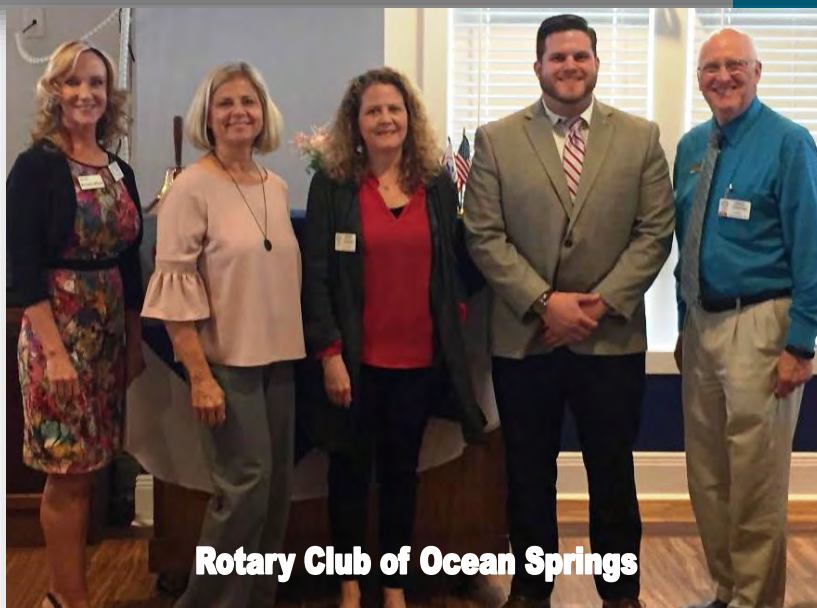


Rotary Club of Metairie and Metairie Sunrisers

LEFT: Rotarians Clif Rhodes and Robert Hauser are pictured with Assistant Director Laura Camper of the Jefferson Parish Parks & Parkways Dept. as they deliver 82 trees (live oaks, Eagleston Hollys, and Bald Cypress). The Rotary Club of Metairie and Metairie Sunrisers partnered together on this great project. The plan is to have some of the trees repotted into larger containers and also transplanted in various parks throughout the parish.

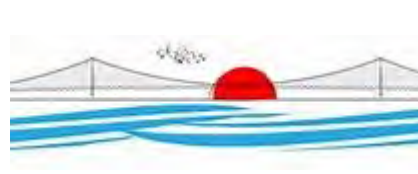


LEFT: Rotary of Belle Chasse participates in "1 Sack" Crawfish Challenge for a Cause, serving up the world famous Tako Todies!!! Rotarian Tray Ansardi with handy helper Bree Bergeron Gina Bubrig with Rotarians Manoj Patel, Anthony Sciacca, Danica Ansardi, Leo Palazzo and Anthony Buras.



Rotary Club of Ocean Springs

Bottom Left: On Wednesday April 4, two business and professional people were inducted as members in the Rotary Club of Ocean Springs. Pictured below from left to right are Membership Chair Michelle Wilson, new member Evelyn Bravata, Past-President Leigh Jaunsen, new member Aaron Shankland, and new member sponsor David Thompson.



Friday June 8, 2018 4:30 p.m.

History will be made in June as four Rotary districts gather on the Mississippi Gulf Coast!

MULTIDISTRICT CONFERENCE

June 7-10, 2018

Join us in **“Making a Difference.... in our World”** by participating in a Polio Plus 5k Walk-Run across the Biloxi-Ocean Springs Bridge.

This event will be held **Friday afternoon at 4:30** right before the wonderful Rotary Food Fest. Since the Food Fest is located Point Cadet Plaza at the foot of the Biloxi Bridge, just put on your tennis shoes and enjoy a beautiful walk across the picturesque bridge.

Gini Fellows, who just completed the Ironman Challenge in Kona will be kicking off the start of our Fun Walk/Run! See her profile on Facebook.

We will walk across the bridge and back which is roughly 3.1 miles. Parking is available at the Golden Nugget Casino and there will be a water station on the Ocean Springs bridge side. Walkers will be back in time to enjoy the food fest which starts at 6:00 p.m.

The **cost for the walk/run is \$33.00** (original “ask” for Polio) and the proceeds will go to the Polio Plus campaign.

Each walker will receive a commemorative t-shirt with the conference logo.

REGISTRATION

Please register on line on the District 6840 website which has a link to the District Conference. There will be a registration booth at the conference until 2:00 on Friday where you can pick up your t-shirt and late registration at the Golden Nugget parking lot the day of the Fun Run/Walk on Friday from 4:00-4:30.

We encourage you to pre-register in order to receive the correct t-shirt size. Extra may be available but no guarantee!

Profit proceeds will go to Rotary International-Polio Plus and matched by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation \$2.00 for every \$1.00 contributed.

This event is **open to everyone** so invite your running /walking friends (or people who want to support our cause and get a t-shirt!) and let them experience Rotary Fellowship! Potential Rotarians!

Dave Vincent , Chairman
Rotary Club of Gulfport
Tourswithdave@gmail.com

Mike Streiff, Chairman
Rotary Club of Ocean Springs
Mike.Streiff@bxs.com



Matching Points Spring Campaign!

March 10-May 30, 2018

District 6840 Fall Matching Points campaign was a huge success with over \$45,000 in donations to The Rotary Foundation and over 200 new or additional Paul Harris Fellowships awarded.

Through the generosity of two Past District Governor from District 6840, **PDG Subbash Kulkarni (2001-2002)** and **PDG Jerry Fortino (2006-2007)** we are now announcing a Spring Campaign with matching points for every donation of \$100.00 or more until the total of 50,000 points is depleted.

Donations can be designated in two ways:

Polio Plus which will be matched to that Rotary International Program by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation \$2.00 additional for each \$1.00 contributed. I have a strong commitment to this program and District 6840 is a leader in the campaign this year!

Annual Fund Share which 50% of donations given by District 6840 Rotarians will return 50% in three years to be used for Grants.

Either donation will be matched with points

\$100.00 = 100 recognition points awarded + 100 points given from the campaign
(can be given to another Rotarian (added to your personal Paul Harris fund)
or other person you designate)

This is a great opportunity to complete a Paul Harris or add another! Double up on your points!

A few simple guidelines:

Donations must be additional contributions; automatic Rotary Direct funds are not recognized.

Minimum donation of **\$100.00**

Donations must be postmarked no later than **May 15, 2018** in order for us to properly credit your account for 2017-2018.

Funds can be made by personal check, company check or Club check made out to The Rotary Foundation. Please designate which fund (Polio Plus or Annual Fund Share)

Mail contributions to: **DG Kathie G. Short P.O. Box 997 Gulfport, MS 39502-0997**

Thank you for your continued support of Rotary International and District 6840!

DG 2017-2018 Kathie G. Short

Kathie

Rotarian Name _____ Member ID # _____
Club _____ Amount of donation _____
Polio Plus _____ Annual Fund _____
Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
I would like the points credited to myself _____ I would like to award points to another person _____
Name of person to receive points _____



Upcoming Events

Event	Date(s)	Location	City	State
Tricentennial ICC Celebration	April - May ??	Various Locations	New Orleans	LA
District Training Assembly	May 12 -	Long Beach Rec Center	Long Beach	MS
District Conference	June 7 - June 10	Beau Rivage	Biloxi	MS
RI International Convention	June 24 - June 27	Air Canada Centre	Toronto	ONT

Rotary Club of New Orleans Assist with Disaster Recovery In Philippines

Joanna Sternberg

When the Philippines were hit by Super Typhoon Haiyan (or Yolanda) in 2013, the story of devastation and loss was all too familiar to the Rotary Club of New Orleans. In the aftermath of this more recent event, an unusual set of circumstances arose that permitted our club to be an active facilitator of an international book distribution project.

Rotary teamed up with CheerUp Missions, a non-profit humanitarian organization that has engaged in disaster relief projects around the globe. While they participate in rebuilding projects on-site, the group actively seeks to make personal connections in the communities they serve using laughter as a vehicle of communication.

Founder and President, Ken Landriault was airborne, returning from a relief mission in Tacloban

City in the Philippines. He started chatting with a fellow passenger about his experiences and, from her, discovered an unanticipated need: books. The schools had been decimated and, while rebuilding structures was certainly important, the access to materials was equally paramount. It just so happened that Ken had over 16,000 books that he was eager to share with these devastated communities. The issue was just how to arrange the shipment to a destination almost 8,000 miles away.

The timeline of the project has spanned over two years of coordination with the Rotary Club of New Orleans - and also necessitated divining a bit of luck. There were plenty of reasons to believe this transport would never work. CheerUp was cautioned that the books could get stolen, sold, or become the casualties of government corruption and bureaucracy. But with persistence, and coordination with local and international contacts, businesses, government officials and the generosity of fellow Rotarians, the books have finally made their way into over 60 schools in Tacloban City and the surrounding area.

Special thanks and recognition to club member Peter Waring for his generous fundraising efforts on behalf of the project and to Michael Duplantier and Heather Kirk for their involvement and participation.

LEFT: Bruce Bain, CheerUp Missions Board Member; club member Peter Waring; Ken Landriault, Founder and President of CheerUp Missions; and club member, Heather Kirk. TOP RIGHT: Tommy Moore and Heather Kirk present a bell to the New Orleans Rotary from the Rotary Club of Manila.



Newsletter Articles/Photos

We welcome your articles, announcements and photos to share in the District 6840 monthly newsletter. We want to highlight your activities, achievements, and the fun you have as a club to the entire district. We'll do our best to include a variety of articles/photos; however, we may not be able to include everything that is submitted due to space limitations. In order to help assemble the newsletter, please utilize the following instructions:

Photos - JPG or GIF format is preferred for all photos. If you have a professional photo from another source/publication, please get permission to use the photos. Please include the names of the individuals, club name, and/or event name and a brief description of the photo.

Articles - Please submit in MS Word or text only format and please proof your articles prior to submission. If this is an article from another publication or another person, please verify that we have permission to re-print.

Please email to sreck@firstam.com by the 25th of the month.

Rotary
District 6840



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District Governor 2017-2018
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