

District 6840 Newsletter

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



Summer 2017



Youth Exchange Picnic



Above: Youth Exchange Students gather together for picnic. Left: Governor Randy Feldman gathers with some of the students.

23 countries---24 if you count the USA were represented here today. The WORLD is such a huge place from a "DISTANCE" ---but Bette Midler sang it best FROM A DISTANCE-----From a distance there is harmony, And it echoes through the land---It's the voice of HOPE, It's the voice of PEACE, It's the voice of Every Man.

From a distance we are instruments---Marching in a common band---Playing songs of HOPE, Playing songs of PEACE----They are the songs of Every Man.

God is watching us from a DISTANCE.

But up-close we are just people who strive to Make A Difference and Make this a better World.

YOU ALL MAKE THIS A BETTER WORLD AND TOGETHER WE MAKE A "HUGE" DIFFERENCE. Thank you all for being that voice and marching together in that common band.

VICKY MAGAS

How do you thank everyone who made this another great event. The words "THANK YOU" just do not begin to express my sincere appreciation for all you have done to make this event another wonderful Pete Dammon Exchange Student Picnic. We may never realize what a difference we may have made in any of these students young lives but the World is a better place for your devotion and dedication you made today.



**ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE**

Short Notes



District 6840

DG Kathie Short

Summer 2017

Dear Fellow Rotarians:

I am honored to have been selected as your 2017-2018 District 6840 Governor. The last three years have been a tremendous experience of education and fellowship as I networked and met with other Governors.....past, present and future.....to prepare me to serve this year.

My first goal has been accomplished-the District 6840 2017-2018 Directory has been completed and posted on our District 6840 website. If you have not had a chance to visit the website please take time to explore the many areas available to learn more about your fellow Rotarians, district, Rotary International and the connection worldwide.

I have started my club visits and enjoying the personal contact with the membership in each club. So many activities and programs that clubs are involved in supporting the six areas of focus!

Please take advantage of the District Newsletter and website calendar to inform us of your activities.

- If your club has a newsletter, and I hope that is the case, please make sure to include me on the contact list. My email is: KathieGShortrotary6840@gmail.com
- Submit articles and photos to our district newsletter editor, Stephen Reck at sreck@firstam.com. This is our first newsletter and will be published in early August. (We are a work in process!) In the future we ask that all articles be sent to Stephen the 25th of each month to be considered for the next edition. Please refer to the Articles/Photos submission instructions on the last page of this newsletter.
- Calendar events, corrections to the directory are to be sent to webmaster Harry Glidden gliddehj@gmail.com Please note there is not an "n" in Harry's email address.

Watch for new important announcements in the upcoming editions of the newsletter!

Special thanks and welcome to Stephen Reck for accepting ownership of our District 6840 Newsletter!

Kathie G. Short

Club	DG Visit: July
Pass Christian	11th
Long Beach	11th
Bay St. Louis	12th
Slidell	14th
Gulfport-Orange Grove	17th
Biloxi	18th
Edgewater	19th
Gautier	20th
Hattiesburg	25th
Ocean Springs	26th
Moss Point	27th
Gulfport	27th

Club	DG Visit: August
Slidell Northshore	1
Pascagoula	2
Central Hancock	3
Lucedale	7
Picayune	8
Algiers	9
Kenner	9
Covington	15
Plaquemines Parish	15
Mid City	16
St. Bernard	17
Petal	21
Amite	22
Hammond	23
Franklinton	24
Carrollton	28
Kentwood	31

NEED A **Membership** CONSULTANT?



Randy Feldman

If your club's top goal is increasing membership, you should consider bringing Past District Governor Randall Feldman to work with you as

Membership Consultant. Randy will work with your club to develop a Membership Plan that will incorporate the goals that you want:

Who are you looking for? How many members do you want? How do you find them? How do you get them?

How do you keep your current members?

Randy's commitment is to work with you to develop the plan with specific tactics attached to attract and retain new and continuing members, and to follow-up with you, coming to membership meetings and other club gatherings as needed.

Your commitment is to set up a membership committee and work in good faith to develop the plan and then carry it out. If you are interested, contact Randy at rfeldman@ramamail.net.

6820

6840

6860

6880

Vicky Gutierrez

Did you hear the news? BIG NEWS? District 6840 will be partnering with three other district, 6820, 6860, and 6880 to host a four district conference! That's right, FOUR DISTRICTS!!

The Conference, *Making a Difference in Our World*, will be held June 7-10, 2018, at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino. *Food Fest – The World Tour* will be Friday, June 8, 2018 at Point Cadet. Make sure your club has a booth so we can show off our district's hospitality.

It will be a great place to network and meet Rotarians from Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.

Watch for upcoming announcements about conference speakers. When you hear who is coming you will want to be there.

Mark your calendars. Conference website will be up and running by mid-August. Look for early registration and meal package deals. We are expecting most events to sell out so don't be left out and book early.

If you would like to be part of the conference committee please contact, Vicky Gutierrez, Conference Chair @ vickyg@cableone.net.

Also, have an idea for the conference, we welcome your input. Give Vicky a call.



Rotary Friendship Exchange



Karen Babin

The opportunity to visit D9930 in New Zealand in April, 2018, is totally booked. However, a visit to New Mexico is available for about 10 days in September, 2018 (roughly 11th-21st). **Santa Fe will be "homebase"** with day trips to Taos, Los Alamos, some Native American villages, and other fascinating destinations.

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! The maximum number of visitors is 10-12.

Karen Babin, 2017-2018 Friendship Exchange Coordinator for D6840 ksbabin@gmail.com

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



The Rotary Foundation



Our district has set all-time highs in giving to the Annual Fund of The Rotary Foundation, and to the PolioPlus Fund. As of today, June 26, District 6840 has donated \$259,800, or \$122.84 per capita to the Annual Fund for the 2016-17 Rotary year. That eclipses the record \$118.68 per capita set two years ago. This will provide more funds coming back to the district in three years to use for club-directed District Grants

Our PolioPlus donations have reached \$38,197 for the Rotary year, also a new record.

District 6840



Kimberly Kirby

District 6840 Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) announces the following dates for this Rotary year. All dates are available for registration at HOA-RLI.org beginning August 1, 2017.

September 16, 2017 Parts I & II

November 18, 2017 Parts II & III

February 3, 2018 Parts I & III

RLI is designed for those Rotarians who have the potential and willingness to engage in future club leadership. The leadership skills you obtain at an RLI event will help you not only in your Rotary career, but will apply to your leadership efforts professionally as well. Everyone must start with Part I and then on future dates attend Parts II & III building on the information learned in Part I.

Remembering Sam

"Optimism is what brings us to Rotary. But Rotary is not a place for those who are only dreamers. It is a place for those with the ability, the capacity, and the compassion for fruitful service."

Sam F. Owori, 1941-2017

By Ryan Hyland and Abby Breitstein

The Rotary flags in front of Rotary International World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA, and Rotary offices around the world fly at half-staff this week as friends and colleagues mourn President-elect Sam F. Owori, who died on 13 July from complications after surgery.

With an engaging smile and a calming voice, Sam put everyone he talked to at ease, says Hilda Tadia, a member of the Rotary Club of Gaba, Uganda, and a close friend of Sam and his wife, Norah.

"I call it the 'Sam Smile,'" says Tadia. "It made him very approachable and easy to talk to. I think his smile is one of the things Rotary and his friends will miss most."

Sam, who had been elected to serve as president of Rotary International in 2018-19, would have been the second African Rotary member, and the first Ugandan, to hold that office. He joined Rotary in 1978 and was a member of the Rotary Club of Kampala, Uganda.

"No matter the situation, Sam was always upbeat, always joking around and putting everyone else in a good mood," says Tadia.

One of the admirable things about Sam, Tadia says, was his love and devotion to his wife. They met in primary school in Tororo, Uganda. Sam described Norah Owori as beautiful, well-educated, and full of character.

"He adored Norah and always put her first," Tadia says. "They were best friends and partners for life. It was very sweet to see them together. They never left each other's side."

Sam was highly respected in Uganda, Tadia says, for his high integrity and consistent ethical standards. Those qualities, she says, are important in a Rotary president. "He was a man everyone could trust."

She adds, "He preferred listening to speaking. It's one reason he was so well-liked."

Sam is survived by his wife, Norah; three sons, Adrin Stephen, Bonny Patrick, and Daniel Timothy; and grandchildren Kaitlyn, Sam, and Adam. Condolences can be addressed to Mrs. Norah Agnes Owori, c/o Institute of Corporate Governance of Uganda, Crusader House, Plot 3 Portal Avenue, Kampala, Uganda or via sam.owori@rotary.org.

Memorial contributions in honor of Sam can be directed to the [Sam F. Owori Memorial to Polio](#).



Interact students from Slidell High School pose with Pakistani Rotarians at the Rotary International Conference at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Front row: Claire Canulette, Emily Cognevitch, Emily Alonzo, Riley Groh and Jordan Groh. Back row: Logan Ward, TJ Galloway, Amna Ranger, Muhammad Aslam Ranger, Carson Canu.ette and Dylan Groh. Tana R.H. Stevenson

Interact

Rotary Sponsored Club



Emily Cognevitch, left, and Emily Alonzo package meals to be delivered to fight hunger at the Rotary International Conference at the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta, Georgia. Tana R.H. Stevenson

Photos Courtesy of Tana Stevenson

St. Patrick's High School Interact Club

Left-Middle: Club Sponsor Mrs. Mary Lawson and Interact members from St. Patrick's High School volunteer some of their summer time to assist their sponsoring club, Rotary Club of

Edgewater, during the annual Children's Health Fair at Edgewater Mall in Biloxi, MS. Interact members helped with various tasks from painting faces, blowing up balloons and handing out bags filled with school supplies. Photo by Carl Fallo



St. Patrick's High School (Biloxi, MS)
Interact Club



Left: The Rotary Club of Algiers sponsored two students for the RYLA camp. Caroline Fortino (granddaughter of Carolyn and Dr. Jerry Fortino) and Ernesteayo Lee excelled in camp and said they would highly recommend any student to attend. Ernesteayo especially enjoyed meeting the exchange student from Brazil and he came home

with his blue team's "Most Spirited" award.



clubs that will begin meeting this fall- Rotaract at University of Southern Mississippi and Rotaract at Southeastern Louisiana University.

Allyson French

Happy 50th Birthday, Rotaract! It is an exciting time for Rotaract as this organization is turning 50 years old. Rotaract is a Rotary sponsored service organization for young adults between the ages of 18-30 years old. Our district currently has 2 of the 9,522 registered Rotaract clubs internationally- Rotaract at LSU Health New Orleans and Rotaract at Tulane University. The district is very excited to announce two additional

Mauldin and was inspired to join the Rotary family. Michael has been working closely with Rob Young and the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg (Sunrise) to get Rotaract at USM up and going. This club has received university approval and is in the process of the Rotary International application. President Michael is an extremely motivated Rotaractor; he has some big plans up his sleeves! Feel free to contact him at micheal.mccullum@usm.edu

Meet Kaleb Champagne: Kaleb was very involved with Interact at Hahnville High School and the Rotary Club of St Charles Parish. He has been working with Mark Dispenza and the Rotary Club of Hammond. Rotaract at Southeastern Louisiana University has an official faculty sponsor and is beginning the application process, and they will begin meeting unofficially in the fall. Kaleb and his vice-president Earl Poole are extremely excited! Contact President Kaleb at Kaleb.Champagne@selu.edu

Meet Michael McCullum: Michael had the opportunity to do service abroad with Barbara

New Officers Throughout District 6840!

"The Passing of the Fork"



2017-2018 Rotary Club of Pass Christian Officers and Committee Chairs

(l-r) Robin Rafferty—Program & Vocational Chair; Connie Jenkins—Club and Youth Service Chair; Kathie Short—2017-18 District 6840 Governor & Foundation Chair; Lynn Day—Past President & Community Service Chair; Evelyn Ford—President; Kristyn Steenkamp—President-Elect & Membership Chair; Catherine Myers—Secretary & Public Relations Chair; and Ken Austin—Treasurer. Not pictured: Ollie Bailey—Sergeant-At-Arms; Les Steverson—Membership Chair; and Beth John—International Service Chair

Far left: Justice John Weimer installs Bill Bubrig as the 42nd President of the Belle Chasse Rotary Club.

Left: Incoming President Bill Bubrig presents out-going President Anthony Sciaaca with a certificate.

Below: The Rotary Club of Ocean Springs announces its officers and directors for 2017-18. Above: left to right, Induction chair Leah Snyder, President Henry Furr, President-Elect Jonathan Franco, Treasurer Amon Holcomb, Secretary Sheila Bennett, Foundation Director J. J. Fletcher, Public Relations Director Stephan Songe, Membership Director Michelle Wilson, Service Director Sherri Johnson, and Past-President Leigh Jaunsen.



Rotary Club of Belle Chasse



Rotary Club of Ocean Springs

"Once Upon A Time"



Ashley Mayley

Once upon a time, in a beautiful beach town not so far away, was a spectacular collection of brave men and women who were always trying to give back. This special group was called the Rotary Club of Bay St. Louis. They were constantly finding new and innovative ways to help – and not just their community, but all over the world.

However, the Rotary Club of Bay St. Louis was not without its woes. Not long ago a disaster

struck their small beach town. That disaster was none other than Hurricane Katrina. With her came destruction, death and sadness; homes, businesses and lives were destroyed. The people were distraught, but they were strong. They did not allow one of the worst disasters in history to stop them from getting back up and fighting. Oh, they were going to fight, and not just fight, they were going to thrive in the wake of her heartbreak.

Their knight in shining armor came in the form of help from all over the world, including Rotary International. Their services helped the resilient Rotary Club of Bay St. Louis and all the people of the land come back, better and stronger than ever. Yet, there was still something missing in the new and improved land of "The Bay".

Where the beautiful wheeled signs of blue and gold once stood at the entrances to the beautiful beach land, there was emptiness. An emptiness that could only be replenished by those same grand signs that expressed to all who entered this special kingdom that this was the home of the Rotary Club of Bay St. Louis. So, under the fearless leadership of Queen Sam, the group stocked up on supplies, loaded up together in their oh-so-splendid carriage, and conquered this quest to show the world that we, the Rotary Club of Bay St. Louis, meet here in this beautiful place we call home. We live, we play, we help, we create, we build and re-build, we beautify, we enrich the lives of everyone around us – WE ARE ROTARY STRONG AND WE ARE HERE TO STAY.

Rotary Club of Bay St. Louis was not without its woes. Not long ago a disaster

District 6840 In ACTION

Right: The Rotary Club of Poplarville hosted the 2017 Blueberry Jubilee 5K and Fun Run in Poplarville, MS, on Saturday, June 10. Approximately 179 runners participated in both runs. Rotarians were outstanding in greeting runners, helping runners register, providing fruit and drinks, organizing door prizes, encouraging runners, awarding medals, and celebrating the success of the runners. Many of the runners commented on the excellent organization of the race. Mark your calendars – next year the Blueberry Jubilee 5K and Fun Run will be held on Saturday, June 9, at 7:30 a.m. in downtown Poplarville.

Below: Rotary District 6840 Assistant Governor and Ocean Springs Rotarian Joyce M. Shaw presented \$400 Home Depot gift cards to ten employees of the Livingston Parish Libraries who were affected by the August 2016 flooding in the Baton Rouge area. The library staff members are in the process of repairing their flood impacted homes.



Rotary Club of Poplarville



Rotary Club of Belle Chasse

Above The Rotary Club of Belle Chasse took the challenge from RI President Ian Riseley to plan a tree for each member. They planted a tree for each of its 26 members. Thanks in part to two local farmers, Tommy Becnel and Star Nursery (the Ranatza's and Camardelle's) who donated the fruit trees.



Rotary Club of Ocean Springs



Rotary Club of Edgewater

Above: Rotary Club of Edgewater in Biloxi served 350 kids in the community during their 31st Annual Children's Health Fair at Edgewater Mall. The health fair led by Chairperson Regina Bossier included screenings (vision, dental, height/weight, chiropractic exam and immunizations) for school aged children.

Left: Dr. Andy Norowski holds up some dental hygiene products that were donated to the kids. Dr. Norowski is a charter member of the club and helped start the children's health fair over 30 years ago.



Rotary Club of Metairie



Above: held our Officer Installation Banquet The Rotary Club of Metairie recognized our Jefferson Parish Deputies of the year, Bryan Rice from the 1st Dist. And Steven Quaintance from the 4th Dist. Seated left is JPS Lt. Craig Gardner and in the white shirts are Capt. Josh Wingrove and Capt. Michael Kinler. Standing with Steven Quaintance is M.C. for the evening, Past President, Dan Milham. Photos by Dan Milham

Below: Members and 2 wives spent an afternoon at Second Harvest Food Bank sorting and packing items for distribution. Pictured (L-R) Mary Rhodes, Rotarians Cliff Rhodes, Neal Adler, Tom Kennedy and Shelley Ferro, Sabine Shaw, Rotarians, Bob Shaw, Pres., Jim Folse, and Dan Milham.



Rotary Club of Hammond



Michelle Gallo

Tangipahoa Parish Fire District No1 had the opportunity to show off its newly acquired watercraft to the Hammond Rotary Club. The boat, a yellow aluminum 16 – by 44 foot Gator Trax boat, was acquired in early April and has already served as an important tool in water operations. The boat was put to the test in late June during a search, rescue and recovery efforts. Fire Chief Bruce Cutrer told the club, before the possession of the new boat, the department

was limited on its swift water and shallow water rescue capabilities. The boat was funded through the efforts of the Amite, Hammond, Kentwood, and Ponchatoula Rotary Clubs as well as the Hammond –Ponchatoula Sunriser Club. The clubs collectively earned roughly \$3,000 toward the purchase of the boat. The Amite Rotary Club was also awarded a district grant to \$15,000 to use toward the purchase of the watercraft. "It is truly a blessing," Cutrer said of the water craft donation.

Upcoming Events

District Governor's Club Visits
Jul 01, 2017 – Nov 01, 2017

Zone Leadership Seminar
New Orleans
Jul 21, 2017 1:00 PM – Jul 22, 2017 3:30 PM

District Summer Seminar
Long Beach Senior Citizens Center
Aug 26, 2017
9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

DAC, COG and Nominating Committee meetings
Aug 26, 2017

Zone GETS/GNETS/Institute
Springfield, IL
Sep 05, 2017 – Sep 10, 2017

Paul Harris Society Dinner
Great Southern Club
Jan 05, 2018

Mid-Year Check-up
Jan 06, 2018

RI International Assembly
Jan 14, 2018 – Jan 20, 2018

District Team Training
First Pentecostal Church of Slidell
Feb 24, 2018
8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

PETS
Natchez Convention Center
Mar 09, 2018 8:00 AM – Mar 10, 2018 3:00 PM

District Training Assembly
TBD
Apr 21, 2018

Making a Difference 2018 Multi-District Conference
Jun 07, 2018 – Jun 10, 2018

RI 2018 International Convention
Toronto, Canada
Jun 24, 2018 – Jun 27, 2018

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 me 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.



Left: Paula and Ken Thompson, Rotary Club of Slidell visited the ShelterBox display at the House of Friendship in Atlanta.

Middle: Jason Sanchez, CJ Jumonville, and Bob Vaughn from the Rotary Club of New Orleans Riverbend visit the House of Friendship in Atlanta, GA.



Bottom: A number of representatives from District 6840 and 6200 attended a breakfast Sunday, June 11, sponsored by the USA - France Intercountry Committee at the Omni Hotel in Atlanta. The ICC's purpose is to promote the exchange of ideas and culture between the two nations. Shown in photo 5881e are Harry Glidden, La Place, Cheryl Millet, La Place, Eliana De Francesch, La Place, and PDG Karen Babin, Metairie

