



ROTARY:  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE

# District Dispatch

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## Keeping Track With Pat



This month's Rotary theme is "Basic Education and Literacy Month." It is one of Rotary's areas of focus.

I kept putting off the writing of this message as I couldn't think of what to say that had meaning until I ended up doing some research and then I didn't want to stop writing. Do you realize that there are 775 million people over the age of 15 identified as illiterate? That accounts for 17% of the world's population. In looking at the latest literacy rates in Michigan, which have been consistent over the last 10 years, the literacy rate is about 82%. However, the rate for Detroit is lower at 53%. Globally, males have a 90% literacy rate and females stand at 82.7%.

On April 11, the United States Department of Education with the National Institute of Literacy, reported 32 million adults in the United States cannot read, which is 14%, 21% read below 5<sup>th</sup> grade level, and 19% of our high school graduates cannot read.

The Department of Justice states there is a link between academic failure and delinquency, violence, and crime. Eighty-five percent of all juveniles involved in the court system are functionally illiterate and 70% of inmates in our prison system read at or below the 4<sup>th</sup> grade level.

As I gathered the above statistics, I was appalled at the measurements both globally and at home. Now I can comprehend why this is an area of focus for Rotary. Rotary's goal is to strengthen the capacities of communities to support basic education and literacy, reduce gender disparity in education, and increase adult literacy. RI supports education for all children and literacy for children and adults.

(continued on page 2)



District Governor  
Patricia Post

## Keeping Track With Pat (Continued from Page 1)

District 6310's contributions to the Annual Fund, the money which comes back to our district to use for district as well as global grants, helps fund humanitarian projects within our communities. I received a list of requests from clubs this past week for humanitarian grants for this coming year, which included projects for club communities such as Apple Dumpling project, Imagination Libraries, Literacy Project, America the Beautiful Books for a library, Art Supplies for Children, Preschool Literacy Project, March is Reading Month project, School Robotics Program, Dictionary Project, and backpack programs just to name a few.

We cannot forget the training we give to Rotaract, Interact, Youth Exchange and RYLA students. We also include education and training in our global projects to improve sustainability. We cannot forget our centennial projects for last year - the collection of books for the Philippines and our Little Free Libraries, which are sustainable for the future.

I am so proud of the clubs in our district. We are ensuring that we meet Rotary International's education and literacy goals. Good work and let's continue our good work, club members!

## Annual Fund Giving

By Chair PDG Eileen Jennings



Each year, our Rotarians give generously to The Rotary Foundation. The Annual Fund of the Foundation is the source that supports the humanitarian work of Rotary. Polio funds are extremely important, and they are spent in the same year as they are given. However, the Annual Fund donations are invested for three years and the earnings support the expenses of running the Foundation. In the third year, 100% of the donations are used for humanitarian work.

Half of your donations will be returned to the district for us to spend as we decide – on District Grants, on Global Grants, and as additional support for polio eradication and Peace Scholars. Your Foundation Committee decides on these expenditures. The other half of your donations go into the World Fund, which RI spends on many kinds of humanitarian work. But our district benefits from this World Fund because it is used to match club and district commitments to Global Grants.

In 2014-15, you gave \$144,800 to the Annual Fund. Therefore, this Rotary year, our district will have \$72,400 available. \$36,200 (one-half) has been allocated to support District Grants. We have two Global Grant proposals in process which will use much of the remainder.

Your giving has increased substantially in recent years. Last Rotary year you gave a total of \$190,625 to the Annual Fund. That is **an increase of almost \$46,00 in the last 2 years!!**

Our new Rotary year is now underway and so we start giving anew. Thus far, since July 1, you have given \$20,694 to the Annual Fund. We need to keep giving every year so that our tremendous service worldwide can continue. That is why you keep hearing about Every Rotarian Every Year – EREY. On your birthday, or the anniversary of your joining Rotary, or whatever day you choose, make your first gift of this year to The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund. Sign up for Rotary Direct, and it is easy to make regular monthly contributions.

Let's aim to set a new record this Rotary year. How about total giving of \$200,000 or more? And how about 80% of all members giving something? If you have not given before, please join this bandwagon this year.

# Start Planning Your World Polio Day Event

By Chuck Cusick

Contributions to polio from our district last year totaled \$59,163. Thank you to all who helped make this possible. We must keep the momentum going through our continued support. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will continue to match our gifts at \$2.00 for every \$1.00 we give up to \$50 million. What will your club do to help end this disease? The polio change jar should be a good tool to use each week.

Wild poliovirus (WPV) cases are holding at only nine this year compared to 22 last year. This could be the year that we see the last case of WPV. Circulating Vaccine Derived Poliovirus (cVDPV) has reached 40 cases. 33 cases reported in Syria and seven cases in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

World Polio Day is October 24. This would be a good time to raise awareness in your club and community.

If you would like a presentation on polio, please contact Chuck Cusick [cvcusick@aol.com](mailto:cvcusick@aol.com).



## Start Planning Your World Polio Day Event

World Polio Day is October 24th, so now is the time to start planning events in your community. Use resources on [endpolio.org](http://endpolio.org) to get started. You'll find everything you need to plan and promote your event, including outreach guides, sample press releases, and social media messages and graphics.

Last year, 1,400 events took place in 90 countries. Let your community know that the fight isn't over and that Rotary is leading the way to a polio-free world.

Join the celebration and [register your event](#).

# Foundation Gala — November 17

By Chair Eileen Jennings

On November 17, we will hold our 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Foundation Gala at Zehnder's in Frankenmuth. This has become one of the best attended events in our district. If you have not attended a Gala, please try to join us this year. If you have attended, I don't have to do much encouraging to get you back again.

I think the favorite part of the Gala, for many persons, is the chance to visit with old and new Rotarian friends. Once again, we will not solicit any contributions at the Gala; it is purely a celebration of your past giving and participation in the work of The Rotary Foundation. And we have lots to celebrate because your giving in the past Rotary year was so generous!

Our keynote speaker this year will be Ed Futa. Ed was the General Secretary of Rotary International for many years. He worked with youth programs before, during, and after his service with RI. He has a modest demeanor and then surprises you with how funny he is during his talks. Please plan to join us on November 17.

# Let's Promote Rotary Global Rewards

By Chair Brenda Scramlin,

Rotary Global Rewards, our member benefits program, offers discounts on products and services from local and global merchants, along with opportunities to give back to Rotary.

Over 33,000 members have signed in to use Rotary Global Rewards. To raise awareness of this program, you can:

1. Visit [www.rotary.org/globalrewards](http://www.rotary.org/globalrewards) from a computer or download the [Rotary Club Locator App](#) to use the program on mobile devices.
2. Ask your club webmaster to post a "Rewards" link to [www.rotary.org/globalrewards](http://www.rotary.org/globalrewards) on your club. This gives members easier access to Rotary Global Rewards.
3. Encourage other club members to post offers on Rotary Global Rewards.
4. Suggest that club members help the program grow in their communities by asking local merchants to post offers.

You can find instructional videos, how-to-guides, and promotional materials on the [Rotary Global Rewards page](#) of My Rotary. If you have any questions about the program, write to [rotaryglobalrewards@rotary.org](mailto:rotaryglobalrewards@rotary.org).

Thank you for your help!

# In the Spotlight...

## Rotary Rewards Chair

### Brenda Scramlin



Brenda Scramlin was born in Quanicassee, Michigan, and attended the Akron-Fairgrove school system. Following graduation, she attended Saginaw Valley State University. Brenda has been employed with COPOCO Community Credit Union since 1992. She has been their Marketing Director since 2005.

Dedicated to community service, Brenda has served on a myriad of local boards, including United Way of Bay County, Michigan Youth Opportunity Initiative, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, Bay Area Community Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, the Literary Council of Bay County, and the Salvation Army. She is an active member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church, and she has served as president of The Bay Area Family Y and Toastmasters International Bay City Club, as well as the [Rotary Club of Bay City](#).

Brenda has received numerous awards including Jerome L. Yantz Partner in Education Award, 2016; YWCA Great Lakes Bay Region, Lorrain Patterson Volunteer Award, 2016; Junior Achievement Volunteer of the Year, Bay County MI, 2015; ROSE Award, Rotary Outstanding Service & Excellence Award, 2015; Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Alumni Award, 2011; Mid-Michigan Chapter of Credit Union Spirit Award, 2011; and Toastmasters District 62 THINK Award, 2009.

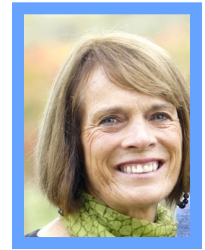
Brenda states she has been married to her "super cool" husband since 2007, and they live in Bay City with their dog, Ginger.

"The 2018 convention already promises to be one of our best ever. As much as Toronto offers to Rotarians, the true draw is, of course, the convention itself. It's a once-a-year opportunity to recharge your Rotary batteries, to see what the rest of the Rotary world is up to, and to find inspiration for the year ahead. You can find out more at [riconvention.org](http://riconvention.org) — and find Inspiration Around Every Corner at the 2018 Rotary Convention in Toronto."

**Rotary International President Ian H. S. Riseley**

# Vocational Training Teams

By Chair Lynne Mischley



Vocational Training Teams (VTT) are groups of professionals who travel—either to learn more about their vocation or to teach local professionals about a particular field. These teams help expand the knowledge and skills of individuals and communities. Rotary clubs and districts can support vocational training teams with district grants or global grants.

**Global Grant funding**, the Vocational Training Team MUST meet the following criteria:

- Be aligned with one or more of the Areas of Focus.
- Increase skills and be measurable.
- Can be a part of a broader Global Grant Project, minimum project budget amount is \$30,000
- Sponsored by two Rotary clubs or districts: a host partner in the country where the activity takes place and an international partner outside that country.

**District Grant funding**, Vocational Training Team needs to meet the following:

- Align with the Foundation's mission to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.
- Can support many types of vocational training teams. Participants can experience the host country's culture, observe how their professions are practiced abroad, exchange ideas, and lead or participate in training courses.

Using district grants to support vocational training activities offers significant flexibility for clubs and districts, as there are no restrictions on the age of participants or duration of the training.

A District Grant for a VTT was received by the Midland Rotary Club with partners in the Midland Morning and Bay City Morning Clubs. This grant supported the six member team going to Uganda last January and training staff and community members in several areas of focus during the two week trip. This was done in partnership with Agape Community Transformation (ACT) a local Non Governmental Organization.

All clubs in our district are encouraged to think about opportunities in this arena and bring potential team ideas to the District VTT Chair, Lynne Mischley, [lynnemischley@gmail.com](mailto:lynnemischley@gmail.com)





# Foundation Seminar — October 14

Our district will hold a Foundation Seminar on Saturday, October 14, at the First United Methodist Church at 4790 Gratiot (M-46) in Saginaw. The seminar will run from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m.

The seminar will cover issues regarding giving and programs of The Rotary Foundation. We will discuss Recognition Points, an area that is confusing to so many of us. Anyone interested in learning more about the Foundation is welcome to attend, but Club Foundation Chairs, Presidents, and Presidents-Elect are especially invited.

If you have items you would like discussed at the seminar, send your suggestions and questions to Eileen Jennings at [eileen.jennings811@gmail.com](mailto:eileen.jennings811@gmail.com).

Invitations will be sent to club presidents and foundation chairs at a later date, but we want to let you know about this seminar now, so you can plan for someone from your club to attend.

In the afternoon of the same day, there will be a Membership and Public Image workshops at this same location. Lunch will be provided, but you need to register. See the flyer on Page 15 of this newsletter for details.

# Let's Have a Party—Toronto, 2018

By District Chair Georgene Hildebrand

## 2018 RI Toronto Convention: The City of Nice

Come join the Party! District 6310 Rotarians are going to the RI Convention in Toronto! So far, 19 of us signed up for this great adventure in our own backyard. If you are thinking about it, sign up too! This convention will be the closest location to 6310!

By the way, District Governor Pat Post set a goal of 20 participants, and we can be sure to exceed her expectations!

23-27 June 2018 in The City of Nice: Toronto



Register at [riconvention.org](http://riconvention.org) and check out all the fun activities that are scheduled.

Hotel reservations through RI Experient are filling up quickly so make your arrangements now.

Group transportation is possible. If you are interested, please send Georgene an email at [georgene.rotary@gmail.com](mailto:georgene.rotary@gmail.com)

Check the expiration date on your passport. You have plenty of time to renew.

# PROGRESS TOWARD MEMBERSHIP GOALS

## 2017-2018

Club	Members July, 2016	Members July, 2017	Current	Goal	Over/Under
Alma/St. Louis	48	51	46	55	-9
Alpena	61	63	65	75	-10
Bad Axe	46	42	42	47	-5
Bay City	93	88	88	95	-7
Bay City Morning	50	51	47	54	-7
Birch Run	24	20	20	24	-4
Breckenridge	10	10	10	11	-1
Caro	54	51	51	53	-2
Cass City	28	24	24	27	-3
Chesaning	11	12	12	14	-2
Clare	54	56	56	56	0
Corunna	22	19	19	23	-4
Durand	26	25	25	27	-2
Frankenmuth	131	127	133	130	3
Frankenmuth Morning	33	33	34	40	-6
Gladwin	25	24	23	26	-3
Harbor Beach	16	14	14	18	-4
Ithaca	26	30	31	32	-1
Midland	168	175	174	180	-6
Midland Morning	46	50	50	50	0
Millington	17	13	12	19	-7
Mt. Pleasant	62	63	63	65	-2
Oscoda	21	21	21	25	-4
Owosso	67	58	57	70	-13
Pigeon	50	55	55	57	-2
Pinconning/Standish	22	25	25	27	-2
Saginaw	52	47	45	53	-8
Saginaw Sunrise	24	25	25	26	-1
Saginaw Valley	34	35	35	36	-1
Sebewaing	27	25	25	26	-1
Shepherd	11	11	11	14	-3
Vassar	19	23	21	30	-9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>1,267</b>	<b>1,260</b>	<b>1,485</b>	<b>-126</b>





## KEEPING TRACK - MEASUREMENTS 2017-2018

Foundation	Goals	Month	YTD	
TRF	\$159,550	\$13,718	\$22,299	
Polio Plus	\$43,130	\$2846	\$4139	
Paul Harris Fellowship			16	2545 overall
Major Donors			3	14 overall
Bequest				61 overall

Youth Service	July 1, 2017	Month	YTD	
Inbounds Student		10	10	
Outbound Students		8	8	
Rotaract Clubs	5		5	
Interact Clubs	11		11	
RYLA				

Tree Planting	Goal	Month	YTD	
	1485	0	0	

## KEEPING TRACK - MEASUREMENTS 2017-2018

Membership	Goals	Month	YTD	% Increase
#Clubs	32		32	
Membership	1478	1359	1359	
Area #1 Alpena, Oscoda	100	86	86	
Area #2 Bad Axe, Harbor Beach, Pigeon, Sebewaing	148	136	136	
Area #3 Chesaning, Corunna, Durand, Owosso	134	113	113	
Area #4 Alma/St Louis, Brecken- ridge, Ithaca, Shepherd	112	98	98	
Area #5 Caro, Cass City, Milling- ton, Vassar	129	108	108	
Area #6 Clare, Gladwin, Mt. Pleasant	142	147	147	
Area #7 Bay City, Bay City Morn- ing, Midland, Midland Morning, Pinconning/ Standish	396	383	383	
Area #8 Birch Run, Frankenmuth, Frankenmuth Morning	194	187	187	
Area #9 Saginaw, Saginaw Sun- rise, Saginaw Valley	118	100	100	

## AROUND THE DISTRICT



Andreas Teich spoke to the **Rotary Club of Bay City** about Rotary Peace Fellowships, a program of Rotary International's Peace Centers Program. The vision of that organization is for sustainable peace "encompassing a network of peace builders and community leaders dedicated to preventing and resolving conflicts across the global community."

The Peace Fellow program partners with seven leading universities around the world. They strive for global impact, academic training, empowerment, building capacity, and being a catalyst. The institutions include Duke in the USA, Bradford in the UK, Uppsala in Sweden, Chulalongkorn in Thailand, International Christian University in Japan, and the University of Queensland in Australia.

Up to one hundred peace fellows are selected each year. Fifty of these are young professionals who enter a 15 to 24 month Master's program. The other fifty are experienced professionals who enroll in a three-month professional development program with two sessions per year.

The average funding for the master's program is \$80,000 and the Certificate fellowship is about \$11,000. This covers all expenses and is underwritten by the program itself. About 57% of the Fellows are female. They represent 85 citizenships and average 35 years of age. The largest number (38%) work for NGO's with another 20% for government agencies.



The **Rotary Club of Caro** was proud to welcome their 2017-2018 Rotary Exchange Student Weronika Filipowicz.

Weronika is from Warsaw, Poland.

The **Rotary Club of Corunna** had the pleasure of taking part at the Shiawassee County Fair in August. At their booth in the Commercial Building they had lots of fun educating the community on how close we are in eradicating polio in the world. They also handed out information on the many community projects they work on.



Ann Marie Van Duyne, Vice President of Philanthropic Services at the Community Foundation of Greater Flint presented spoke to the **Rotary Club of Midland** about the Flint Water Crisis. Since clean water is an important initiative for Rotary and is something that we are addressing on a world-wide scale. The Board thought it would be relevant to our clean water cause to have an update on our own water crisis happening with our neighbors in Flint.



Ann Marie is a resident of Flint and explained to us first-hand what it is like to not have fresh water. She helped members understand some of the misconceptions surrounding the water crisis and how important it is that we learn from this tragic event. The Community Foundation of Greater Flint has received support from around the world (15 different countries), including high profile celebrities such as John Legend, Madonna, and Jimmy Fallon. Recently, the foundation received a one million dollar gift from Bruno Mars. She explained how important community foundations are, particularly during times of disaster. Club members have seen this in our own community during the recent flooding in Midland.

Ann Marie touched on the Flint Kids in Focus Impact Report for 2016. Funds are also being used to focus on early childhood education. The three main goals of the foundation have remained the same as they also deal with the water crisis: early childhood literacy, access to healthy food for Flint families, and developing Flint neighborhoods.



Photo courtesy of Central Michigan University

John Schneider, Tracy Galarowicz, PhD and Eric Clinton, PhD of the biology department at CMU toured three groups of Rotarians from the **Rotary Club of Mt. Pleasant** around the new Bio Science building at CMU. This building was the most expensive project CMU has undertaken at 95 million dollars. It opened last year to professors and in January to students. They state it is “science on display” With living walls and aquariums throughout the building.



This spring the **Rotary Club of Pigeon** and the **Laker Interact Club** installed Little Free Libraries—one each in Elkton, Pigeon, and Bay Port. Although under the auspices of Rotary, they are a part of a much larger worldwide movement.

Todd Bol started the movement as a project to recycle a garage door by turning it into a small book repository in the shape of a one-room schoolhouse to honor his late mother. People were more interested in the repository than in his garage sale in Hudson, WI. That was 2009, when he then gave away 30 Little Free Libraries to friends and family. In 2012 it became a nonprofit and Little Free Libraries kept popping up. The goal was one more than the 2509 libraries built by Carnegie. November of 2016 saw the 50,000th installed, that in a homeless shelter in Santa Ana, CA. All 50 states and 70 countries have Little Free Libraries.

Three local high school students discussed their participation in the annual RYLA program at Camp Rotary near Harrison at a recent meeting of the **Rotary Club of Pinconning & Standish**.

The students were Standish-Sterling senior Makayla James and Pinconning seniors Janae Whyte, and Ethan Day. About 80 students attended the camp, all of them sponsored by local Rotary clubs. The Rotary Club of Pinconning & Standish sponsored these three students. They stated, at the camp, they learned that by working with others they could overcome challenges and feel more confident about dealing with new people. They also learned the importance of using the Rotary 4-Way Test in day-to-day activities.



The students said they were divided into teams of about ten students each, with members coming from different high schools. Teams interviewed prospective adult counselors before selecting the one they wanted to work with. A different inspirational speaker made a presentation each day, followed by team-building exercises within each team. One such exercise involved guiding a blindfolded person through a crowd that did its best to distract the person. On the last night and after being given only a short time to prepare, teams presented skits based on elements of the 4-Way Test. Many recreational activities were also offered during their free time, including swimming, canoeing, kayaking, and archery. Boy Scouts were present to assist with all the activities.

The students stated that their camp experience would help them in their senior year of high school and beyond. Friendships made at camp have been lasting, as many of the participants have stayed in touch after the camp ended. Students who attend the annual leadership camp have been instrumental in guiding the local high school Interact Club, comprised of students from both Pinconning and Standish-Sterling high schools. In the coming year, the Interact Club is considering some community service projects, such as installing new benches along the trails at Pinconning County Park and upgrading the bathrooms in Doc Letchfield Park.

## Upcoming Event



### Second Conflict Resolution Training

*"This is the unusual thing about nonviolence, everyone shares in the victory." ~M. L. King Jr.*

Midland Noon Rotary's Peace & Conflict Resolution Subcommittee and District 6310 is again working with the Midland Chapter of the Nonviolent Peaceforce to build and further develop conflict resolution skills with win/win outcomes for participants as well as the broader community.

Jennifer Batton of Conflict Education Consultants, who has 21 years of experience, will again be our trainer. The two-day training will build on the foundation laid at the March 25 "Creating Peace by Practicing Peace" workshop in that we will have the opportunity to practice conflict resolution skills and techniques. A minimal fee of \$20 will help cover costs.

*September 29 -30, 2017*

*9 am to 5 pm*

*First United Methodist Church, 315 W. Larkin Street, Midland*

*Lunch opportunities available downtown*

Jennifer can accept a maximum of 30 attendees. Rotary and Nonviolent Peaceforce will share in the maximum; a total of 15 can be Rotarians.

For more information, please contact Rotary Peace Fellow Jeanne Schaller at [jgschall@outlook.com](mailto:jgschall@outlook.com).

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS IMPORTANT TRAINING**, please **rsvp** by **September 1, 2017**, to Gail Hoffman, Peace & Conflict Resolution Subcommittee Chair, at [gailhoffmanhome@gmail.com](mailto:gailhoffmanhome@gmail.com).

Send payment checks of \$20 to Kelli Bos, Midland Noon Rotary, P.O. Box 2002, Midland, MI 48641-2002.

Working together, we can continue to learn how to apply the principles of nonviolent peace and conflict resolution in our own lives, our communities, and beyond! Please join us in this very important Rotary area of focus. Building and promoting peace is at the very center of our local and international humanitarian service.





## Club Foundation, Membership, and Public Image Training

Saturday, October 14, 2017, 9:00-3:00

First United Methodist Church, 4790 Gratiot (M-46) Saginaw

This training is provided by District 6310 for clubs. Please take advantage and consider sending your Club Committee Chairs or other interested members to this training, there is so much to learn about these three topics, which will greatly benefit your individual clubs.

### Workshop Schedule:

**9:00-** Arrival Coffee and doughnuts



**9:30-11:30- Foundation-Eileen Jennings-** The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world to friends and neighbors and their commitment to improving lives.

*Learn about the new initiatives of the Rotary Foundation, concerning grants and projects to improve your Club's reach and participation.*

**11:30-12:15- Lunch (sandwiches provided)**



**12:15-1:45-Membership- Troy Leipprandt-** Membership is the life blood of Rotary-Impact starts with our members — people like you who want to be part of making the world a better place. At club meetings in communities across the globe, our members come together to strengthen their connection. *Learn effective and sustaining ways to attract and retain Members.*

**1:45-2:00- Break**



**2:00-3:00- Public Image-Shelley Norris- "People of Action Campaign" –** Rotary is where neighbors, friends, and problem-solvers share ideas, join leaders, and take action to create lasting change.

*Learn about Rotary's Brand New Campaign just officially launched in Atlanta, Actionable ideas of how to implement it in your own Club, utilizing social media and print.*

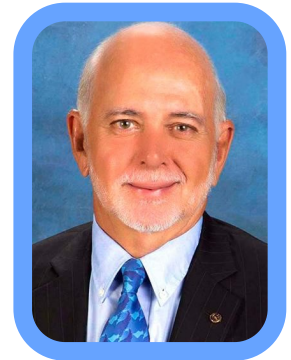
**R.S.V.P.- Connie Deford** -[connie.rotary6310@gmail.com](mailto:connie.rotary6310@gmail.com) by October 10<sup>th</sup> how many from your club are attending, and those who will need lunch.

# New RI President-Elect

Barry Rassin, of the Rotary Club of East Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas, is the selection of the Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International for 2018-19. He was declared the president-elect on 1 September.

As president, Rassin aims to strengthen our public image and our use of digital tools to maximize Rotary's reach.

"Those who know what good Rotary clubs do will want to be a part of it, and we must find new models for membership that allow all interested in our mission to participate," he says. "With Rotary more in the public eye, we will attract more individuals who want to be part of and support a membership organization that accomplishes so much good around the world."



Rassin earned an MBA in health and hospital administration from the University of Florida and is the first fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives in the Bahamas. He recently retired after 37 years as president of Doctors Hospital Health System, where he continues to serve as an adviser. He is a lifetime member of the American Hospital Association and has served on several boards, including the Quality Council of the Bahamas, Health Education Council, and Employer's Confederation.

A Rotarian since 1980, Rassin has served Rotary as director and is vice chair of The Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees. He was an RI training leader and the aide to 2015-16 RI President K.R. Ravindran.

Rassin received Rotary's highest honor, the Service Above Self Award, as well as other humanitarian awards for his work leading Rotary's relief efforts in Haiti after the 2010 earthquake there. He and his wife, Esther, are Major Donors and Benefactors of The Rotary Foundation.

Rassin's nomination follows Sam F. Owori's death in July, just two weeks into his term as Rotary International president-elect.

In his mission statement, Rassin states "... I believe we must address how we bring our mission into households around the world. Those who know what good Rotary Clubs do will want to be a part of it, and we must find new models for membership that allow all interested in our mission to participate. With Rotary more in the public eye we will attract more individuals who want to be part of and support a membership organization that accomplishes so much good around the world."

## Congratulations to the following clubs celebrating an anniversary this month:

**Owosso** - 96 years - Chartered September 21, 1921

**Birch Run** - 18 years - Chartered September 2, 1999

**Saginaw Sunrise** - 16 years - Chartered September 7, 2001



The District 6310 Newsletter is published monthly. Articles originate from various Rotary International publications as well as from events and activities within the District. Thank you to all contributors.

We encourage the submission of articles. Please provide information and pictures for a future District Dispatch to:

Connie M. Deford, Administrative Assistant  
[connie.rotary6310@gmail.com](mailto:connie.rotary6310@gmail.com)