



# Rotary

DISTRICT  
6080



**Be a gift to the world**

## MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR STEVE

It was great to see our District 6080 Food Fight cited in the most recent *Rotarian* magazine. On page 14 of the December issue they described the project and the wonderful outcome of 33 clubs from our district participating in collecting more than 10,000 pounds of food and \$19,000 while contributing over 1,500 hours of service. I only wish they had recognized the tireless team and volunteers that worked so hard on this project to make it such a success. A few that deserve special mention are Joe Weston (Columbia South) and the rest of the organizing committee and Carla McDaniel (Jefferson City Breakfast) who as leader of community service for the district helped in the execution. And special mention goes to Mary Ann Beahon who, as chair of Public Image for the District, publicized this project to every newspaper in the cities where clubs participated and who contacted Rotary International about publicizing this in the magazine. Mary Ann certainly filled the expectations of the Public Image Chair by telling Rotary stories of doing good in the world. Thanks to these and all Rotarians that played a part in the Food Fight, for contributing to its success and thereby having District 6080 recognized in *The Rotarian*.

Service projects like this help us stay engaged in Rotary and thus remain as loyal members. Participation in club service activities is a keep performance indicator of how your Rotary club is doing at engaging members. Engagement is a sure way that members get their benefit from Rotary, and we need to help all members get involved in something they are interested in. It's not just about members coming to meetings, it's also about offering members a platform where they, in their own ways and based on their own preferences, can Be A Gift to the World.

Membership is not about growing for the sake of growth but rather the more Rotary members we have, the more we can achieve for our communities. When we bring a new member into the Rotary Family, we are helping the new member as they will have more opportunities to provide service for people than before, we are helping the club as engaged new members are contagious and will add synergy to the club culture, and we are helping ourselves as we are happier as a result of helping these new members.

It is my pleasure to announce that we will have a District Governor Citation for the year 2015-2016, and this is in addition to the Presidential Citation so I hope you achieve both. The goals for this new program are for each club to: 1) increase membership by 3% over the previous Rotary year and 2) increase Annual Fund foundation contributions by 3% over the previous Rotary year or by \$100 per capita, whichever is greater. Details of these goals have been provided to the president of your club. For the clubs that achieve both of these goals, the district will award them the Governor's Citation and present the clubs with a check for \$500 to be used towards a 2016 community service project. Best wishes in achieving this growth in membership and foundation contributions, and I and all your district officers are at your service to provide whatever help we can.

Sincerely yours in Rotary,  
Steve Dulle

## VISIONING

“Do you think your Club could use a 5 hour energy drink?”

Ask yourself if your Club has a clear sense of what it stands for. What is that special something that makes it unique? Do you have vibrant programs? What about membership - are you growing? Do you reflect the local community with a healthy influx of dynamic, imaginative new Rotarians? And if you can answer those questions do you have a range of service programs that will sustain their interest and involvement?

Visioning is the name Rotary gives to the program offered to your Club to help members dream and develop a plan to take the Club forward. Chris Rigby, District Visioning Chair likens Visioning to a Rotary equivalent of 5 hour energy with a 3 year long burn. If you think your Club could use a kick start and some fresh input from its members about where it's headed, tell your President.

Since the start of the Rotary year Columbia Northwest, Springfield Sunrise, Bolivar, Marshfield, Buffalo and Butler have had Visioning sessions. 34 of the 49 clubs in our District have completed Visioning at least once (6 of these have completed more than once). Some clubs have completed the strategic plans they developed and are lining up for a repeat with one headed for its 3rd Visioning in the New Year. And the feedback we get is constructive and positive. For the average Rotarian the evening session provides a real learning experience about Rotary and the opportunity for everyone to make a contribution whether a novice or tenured.

## FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTIONS

By giving to the Annual Fund, you are empowering Rotary to carry out successful global and local initiatives. Supporting the Annual Fund means a teacher will have books and supplies for first graders, an expectant mother will receive prenatal care, and communities will enjoy their newly-constructed well. Your Annual Fund support replenishes the primary source for the Foundation's programs ensuring that Rotarians can continue to make a global impact one precious life at a time.

Again, thank you for all you do for the recipients of Rotary's generosity. You play a vital role to those in need. And thank you for being a part of our Rotary family and for helping to make our world a better place. Your continued support of the Rotary Foundation is a catalyst for positive change around the world.

For more information on the Rotary Foundation please refer to the December Foundation newsletter published by Raymond Plue, District Foundation Chair.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

From a district-wide perspective, we hope to see as many clubs as possible engaging in helping others through a local organization during the holidays.

Have fun helping others – no matter what you choose! We would love to hear from each club letting the district know what projects are taking place in each of your communities.

Adopt a Family or similar program in your local community to assist with holiday giving for those that might otherwise receive nothing or very little.

Assist a local organization that is providing services for those in need, such as the Salvation Army (bell ringing is popular this time of year!), pregnancy centers, single parent assistance, etc.

Don't forget to involve to partners such as Rotaract, Interact and other organizations where possible. This will also help you achieve one or more of the Presidential Citation goals.

Please send descriptions and pictures of your projects to Dick Mazanec for inclusion in our next newsletter. We appreciate all you do and we want to share with others all the wonderful works of the Rotary Clubs

## BRANSON DAYBREAKERS MAKE DONATION TO CRISIS CENTER



*Curtis Fudge presents check to the Taney County Crisis Center*

Curtis Fudge, President of the Branson Daybreakers Rotary Club presents Becky Vermeire of the Taney County Crisis Center a check for \$1,000 at the club's November 12th meeting. The center is a shelter for victims of domestic abuse and their children. The \$1,000 was given to help defray the costs of utilities this winter.

## MESSAGE FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT RAVI RAVINDRAN

My dear friends,

As this year comes to an end, we have the opportunity to reflect on what we've accomplished so far and what else we hope to do. As I said in my message in the December issue of *The Rotarian*, this is also a time for giving. I would ask that you continue to Be a Gift to the World by giving the gift of Rotary. By giving to our Foundation, you help provide the means to address the needs of our local and global communities. No gift is too small: just \$15 can pay for polio vaccines, and gifts of up to \$200 can pay for much needed medical equipment in a rural hospital. With your support, we can continue to accomplish much more.

You can even give to a specific area of focus that has become important to you. Learn more about what your gift could support.

Rotary's six areas of focus have helped us channel our efforts so that we can better meet the needs of communities around the world — to provide clean water, to educate children, to help bring peace and hope to areas of conflict. Together with Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Ray Klinginsmith, I am sponsoring a series of five presidential conferences between January and March to highlight our areas of focus, beginning with the [Rotary World Peace Conference 2016](#). Local Rotary districts will serve as hosts, and the conferences will be open to both Rotary members and the general public. They will feature engaging speakers, informative general sessions, and hands-on workshops. Attendees will have the opportunity to network with fellow leaders and take away new ideas and strategies. [Visit the conference websites](#) to learn more about each program and to register.

This is a good time to remind you that our convention is fast approaching. I attended my first convention nearly 30 years ago in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. Each convention is special, but they get better and better every year. I enjoy seeing old friends, making new ones, and sharing my passion for Rotary. The Seoul convention, 28 May-1 June, is sure to be the best yet.

I invite you to join me — whether it's your first convention or your 10th — to connect with new friends and new ideas, and to be inspired to *Be A Gift to the World*.

As leaders, we all have a responsibility to extend the invitation to our fellow Rotarians, and to encourage them to experience the best event of the Rotary year. Please spread the word that the convention is for all Rotarians, and consider sharing this great Rotary tradition by sponsoring the attendance of a district Rotaract representative, Rotaract club president, or other Rotaract leader.

Remember to take advantage of early registration savings and register today. I look forward to seeing you in Seoul.

Warm regards,

K.R. Ravindran

2015-16 President, Rotary International



## CHRISTOS HOUSE KIDS HELPED BY WILLOW SPRINGS ROTARIANS



Dean Thornton, Brenda Hewitt, Teresa Waggoner and Maggie Hiatt

It takes a lot of courage and unfortunately bad events in one's life before someone becomes a resident at the Christos House in Pamona, Missouri. Christos House is a home for battered and abused women who are able to escape from a bad situation, often with just the clothes on their back and their children in tow.

Saving Mothers and Children is one of Rotary's six areas of focus and so when Willow Springs Rotary Club looked for a project they could get excited about, they looked for ways to help the Christos House. A call to Director Kelli Neel and a visit revealed a perfect project – fixing and furnishing the children's recreational room.



The Willow Springs Rotarians and student artists in the finished room.

A new couch, fresh paint, a mural, draperies, new lighting, six brightly colored bean bag chairs, new toys, a large desk area, more books, new student chairs and a little elbow grease to clean everything from top to bottom is giving parents and kids what they needed -- A safe and welcoming respite for children of all ages. "The kids really needed this," said Neel. "We are so appreciative of all that Willow Springs Rotary Club did for the kids. The room has been amazingly transformed."

A Rotary District 6080 Grant of \$600 was matched with local funds, time and energy to complete the project.

## ROTARACT

Rotaract, the Rotary group for individuals age 18-30, is a great way to introduce a younger person to Rotary. Rotaract Clubs generally meet twice a month and focus on hands-on service activities. Rotaract Clubs are either community based or college/university based. Clubs are sponsored by a Rotary Club. The Rotary Club acts as a point of support, offering guidance to the Rotaract Club leaders and mentorship to members. Currently there are four Rotaract Clubs in our District; Columbia, Jefferson City, Springfield and College of the Ozarks.

If you are near a Rotaract Club, consider getting engaged with their members. Perhaps you can partner with them on a service project, or plan a joint fellowship activity so members can mingle. The most important thing you can do for Rotaract Clubs is send them members. If you know an individual between the ages of 18-30 who you believe would be a good Rotarian, why not point them in the direction of Rotaract? Some of the most active younger Rotarians are former Rotaract Club members and leaders. Rotaract provides a solid Rotary foundation and when the time is right, those Rotaract graduates will become productive and engaged members of your Rotary Clubs. It's a win-win for Rotary, Rotaract and our local communities.

If you don't have a Rotaract Club nearby, consider whether you could help start one. Feel free to contact Marissa Todd at [mltodd1018@gmail.com](mailto:mltodd1018@gmail.com) with any and all Rotaract questions.

## CONNECTWITHUS

