



District 6080 Rotarians,

The end of Rotary Year 2024-25 is fast approaching, and this is my last article as your District Governor. I want to thank each member of the Rotary clubs of District 6080 for the honor, privilege and opportunity to serve you as your District Governor. I hope I have been able to inspire and motivate you as well as to respond to your questions and issues. I will, of course, continue to try to respond through the end of my term on June 30—and thereafter if asked.

In the final month of this Rotary Year I urge Rotary Clubs to accomplish more:

Finish out your club's goals for the year and record them in Rotary Club Central—whether service projects, membership, Rotary Foundation giving, social media posts, youth services participation or otherwise.

Recruit new members for your club and bring them in before July 1.

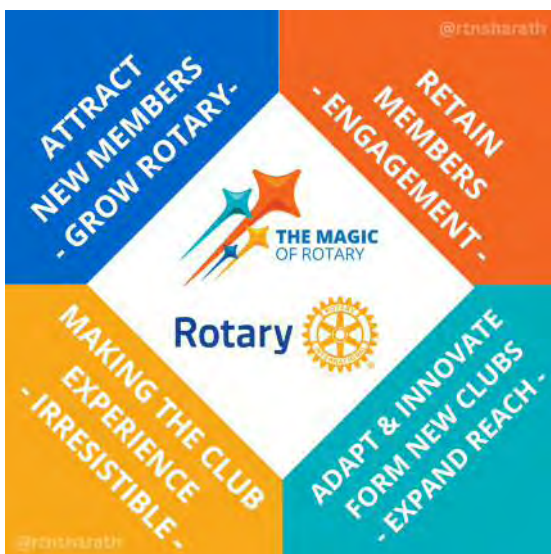
Encourage donations to the Annual Fund of The Rotary Foundation. I appreciate all of the donations that have been made, but we are still well behind last year's giving. Five clubs have zero contributions made by the club or its members. I encourage those clubs to make contributions before June 30. I encourage clubs to reach Every Rotarian Every Year status—every member contributes to the Annual Fund and average giving is at least \$100. Seven clubs have achieved this status, and five more have over 80 percent participation.

I hope that all club members will consider inviting a prospective Rotarian to visit his or her club. Also, each Rotarian should consider giving to the Annual Fund or Polio Plus fund before June 30. Special thanks goes to our Paul Harris Society members who have fulfilled their pledges to contribute at least \$1,000 to the Foundation this year.

Next month's newsletter article will come from my successor as District Governor, Andrea Brady. I am confident that she will be an excellent leader of the District for the 2025-26 Rotary Year.

Finally, enjoy the remainder of this Rotary Year and continue with service, fellowship, networking and fun in the 2025-26 Rotary Year and beyond!

Rowland Geddie, District Governor 2024-25
Rotary Club of Springfield Sunrise



Send your news items and photos to District Secretary Mary Ann Beahon at beahon.rotary@gmail.com

Zones 30-31 Offer Summer Leadership Seminars



Rotary International Zones 30-31's exciting Summer Leadership Seminars are designed to inspire, connect, and empower our members!

Seminar Focus

Attendees will create actionable plans to engage and retain members by boosting Rotary's visibility, appeal, and leveraging the power of our Foundation.

Seminar Dates & Locations

All seminars are \$60 and include continental breakfast and lunch. We especially encourage representation from Membership, Public Image, and Foundation teams. All members are welcome!

- July 12 – St. Louis, MO
Optional Event Friday, July 11:
Cardinals vs. Braves baseball game at 7:15 PM. Eat on your own before or at the stadium.
- July 19 – Louisville, KY
Optional Event Friday, July 18:
Tour Churchill Downs, followed by a private film screening of City of Ali at the Kentucky Science Center with director Graham Shelby. Includes 2 adult beverages & food.
- July 26 – New Orleans, LA
Optional Event Friday, July 25:
A Cajun Food Fest hosted by local Rotary Clubs! Includes 2 drink tickets.
- August 2 – Birmingham, AL
Optional Event Friday, August 1:
Fellowship dinner at Mugshots (participants cover their meal). Free hospitality room after dinner.
- August 9 – Oklahoma City, OK
Optional Event Friday, August 8:
Experience the Plaza District Art Walk and Skate the Plaza street festival. Enjoy local eateries, art galleries, and a high-energy evening scene.

Let's Unite for Good this summer! Please share with your club and bring fellow members to one of these outstanding events.

Jamie Higgins & Cindy Gammons Freels
Co-Chairs 2025 Summer Leadership Seminars

Register Now: [Leadership Seminars | Rotary Zones 30-31](#)

Ralph's Rickshaw Ride – 2,100 Miles for PolioPlus



Rotarian David Backer, owner of Wise Bros., leans back for his ride while Charlie James looks on.

A Rotarian from St. Louis is riding a bicycle 2,100 miles in support of the organization's work to eradicate polio and protect the world's children from this devastating disease. His trip took him through Missouri on the Katy Trail.

Ralph Zuke (pronounced zoo-key), 58, left St. Louis early on April 28 pulling a rickshaw behind his bicycle. He made stops in Washington, Portland, Columbia, Clifton City and Warrensburg.

On April 30 he attended the noon meeting of the Rotary Club of Fulton. The club was "on the road" for a special gathering at Wise Bros., six miles west of Kingdom City.

Zuke's travels are taking him through Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana and into Canada. His final destination is Calgary, Alberta, Canada, site of this year's Rotary International Convention, which starts June 21.

He is accompanied by friends who are driving his truck behind him during the ride to Calgary, keeping him safe. The first driver went as far as Omaha; others are continuing in shifts.



Ralph Zuke prepares to take off pulling Charlie James behind him.



A Rotarian for 17 years, Zuke is a member of St. Louis Civilians, a satellite club of St. Louis Rotary, and the District Governor-elect of Rotary District 6060. Riding his bicycle/rickshaw combination to Rotary International conventions is nothing new to him--he rode 702 miles to the convention in Toronto in 2018 and 904 miles to Houston in 2022.

His excursions help raise awareness and funds for Polio Plus. Through sponsorships and donations, as well as giving people rides in the rickshaw, he has raised over \$60,000. Through the efforts of Rotary International and its partners, more than 2.5 billion children in 122 countries have been immunized against polio over the past 37 years.

To donate to Ralph's efforts, go to <http://bit.ly/RotaryRickshaw>.



Rotary's 'Service Above Self' Takes Many Forms



District Project - Led by District Governor Rowland Geddie, Rotarians came together to help Wonderland Camp prepare for camping season. They washed windows, spackled, powerwashed tables and chairs, put together cabinets and planted some beautiful flowers. In addition they brought donations. Wonderland Camp, which sits in the heart of Rotary District 6080, provides camping opportunities for children, teenagers, and adults with disabilities.



Rowland shows his skill in assembling cabinets for storage.



Belton-Raymore Rotary joined Rotarians from other clubs to prepare the Rotary Youth Camp at Lake Jacomo for the upcoming camping season. The outdoor tents were set up, swimming pool prepared, and much landscaping work was done.





Branson Daybreakers Rotary's 19th Annual Kids Fishing Derby was a splash! Nearly 100 young anglers joined Rotarians for a sunny, worm-filled, fish-catching frenzy—and they ran out of bait! Watching their faces light up with every tug on the line was priceless. One girl reeled in a catfish nearly her size, and they even saw former derby kids return as parents, passing the tradition to the next generation. See you next year—same pond, same smiles, and maybe a few more worms!

West Plains Noon Rotary Club celebrated

the achievements of local youth with the Summa Cum Laude Luncheon April 29 at the West Plains Civic Center. The luncheon honored the top 10 percent of the West Plains High School senior class, recognizing their hard work, dedication and bright futures. The club sponsors the luncheon because it aligns with the Rotary's values of fostering leadership and service. By celebrating these students' achievements, they're not only honoring their hard work but also inspiring them to continue making a positive impact in the world.



Willow Springs Rotary Rotary presented plaques and had a pizza party to celebrate our graduating Interact seniors. These Interactors have personified Rotary's motto "Service Above Self"! Congratulations and thank you to Nicole Barnett, Sophia Barrett, Kristen Buster, Madison Bay, Gabbie Beltz, Landon Chatman, Will Clarkston, Karson Gilbert, Hynlie Johnson, Logan Mullins, Kaylee Pendergrass, Mary Spencer, Heidi Wehmer, Braxton

Wilbanks, and Emma Wiles. And, a very big special thank you to their amazing advisor, Quincy Hatch.

Clinton Rotary assisted with field day at Henry Elementary School.



Left to right: Ashley Wareham, Krystal Smith, Nick Voet, Jack Wetzel, Ben Johnson and Wes Hilton.



Springfield Rotary (right) distributed donuts and coffee to dads with Good Dads at Weller Elementary School.





Jefferson City Evening Rotary spent a Saturday morning sprucing up the community. Serve Jeff City, a United Way event, was held to give community members an opportunity to help clean, build, plant and powerwash different areas in Jefferson City that needed attention. The event began with a pancake breakfast at McClung Park. Volunteers then traveled to their chosen work spaces around town. Evening Rotary planted in the garden at Common Ground, cleaned up a creek, and built planters at Masonic Lodge. The club's Rotary Youth Exchange student, Cedric, offered up his skills as well.



Harrisonville Rotary welcomed their Bright Futures Harrisonville Classroom Partner, Mrs. Jimenez's 4th Grade Wildcats, to their regular meeting to celebrate another great school year. They enjoyed pizza, a great program about Angel Flight Central and good conversation.



Branson-Hollister Rotary (right) held a park cleanup.



Willow Springs Rotary held a Pancake Breakfast fundraiser May 24 and raised around \$400. Rotarians Jay and Teresa Waggoner, Debbie Hora, Maggie Hiett, Arlene Arnold and Mary Aye stopped for a picture at the event.

Rocheport Becomes Latest to Install Peace Pole



Rocheport Rotary dedicated a Bicentennial Peace Pole May 10. Tim Carson gave an historical overview. The pole is located immediately beside the Depot adjacent to the Katy Trail. The dedication was part of a day of observances highlighting Rocheport's 200 years of existence. In addition to dedicating the Peace Pole, Rotarians toured the newly refurbished museum with its mural project and the Barth Garden's new pergola sunshade, which the club helped fund.



Tim Carson

The Peace Pole project has been in the making for a year and was enthusiastically embraced by the Rocheport Rotary Club board and membership. They raised funds, received support from the Friends of Rocheport and the Boone Electric Community Trust, and enjoyed the support of the Department of Natural Resources and the City of Rocheport.

Peace Poles by the thousands are scattered throughout the U.S. and the world. Rotarians often engage in the Peace Pole project by affiliation with the Peacebuilders program. Peace Poles are distinguished by one aspirational hope: May Peace Prevail on Earth. The four sides of the peace pole present that message in the four languages historically predominant where the pole is located.

In Rocheport, four languages were chosen that defined its history and culture:

Osage – Indigenous tribes inhabited the Missouri River Valley for millennia. The Osage was the dominant tribe of the first peoples of the Missouri River Valley. The club obtained the wording in the Osage tongue from the language department of the Osage Nations in Oklahoma.

French – Long before Lewis and Clark and Corps of Discovery, French explorers came down the Mississippi from the north with trappers, soldiers, and missionaries. Along the Missouri River they established tribal alliances and military and trading outposts.

English – Following the Louisiana Purchase, Americans with Scots Irish heritage migrated overland from the upper south, through Kentucky and Tennessee, bringing their slaves with them. They travelled out the Boone's Lick Road, homesteading along the way.

German – In search of the prosperity of a new Rhineland, Germans traveled from New Orleans up the Mississippi River to the Missouri River. They settled along the fertile "German Corridor" in now iconic German towns such as Hermann.



Future plans include landscaping the area around the Peace Pole to make it more attractive and usable for citizens and visitors.

Rotarians are also in the process of working with Missouri State Parks to design a historic sign marker that will provide a description of the monument and its particulars.

Fundraising: a Crucial Part of Community Service



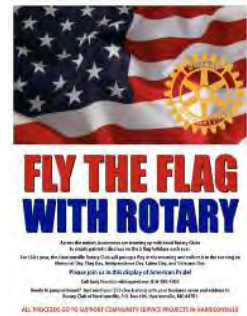
Laurie-Sunrise Beach Rotary held its Pirates Plunder On The Beach fundraiser at Captain Ron's on May 10. They sold tickets for an opportunity to dig in the sand to find six gold treasure chests, combined value of \$6,000, 15 silver treasure chests, and 300 bronze chests for prizes. They had 210 paid diggers and raised just over \$7,500. They enlisted the help of the LOTO Board of Realtors to help bury chests. Everyone walked away with some fabulous prizes. Money raised will help the club with community charitable giving throughout the year.

Laurie-Sunrise Beach Rotary also held a fundraiser for Polio Plus, selling "SHOTS" for \$5 each at their regular club meetings on April 24 and May 1 in honor of World Immunization Week. These non-alcohol syringe shots were a hit and raised \$115 for Polio Plus.



Hollister Rotary (left) held a Trivia Night with all proceeds going to the community grant fund.

Harrisonville Rotary (right) holds a flag program fundraiser each year.



Jefferson City Breakfast Rotary (below) held a successful BBQ fundraiser on April 25. Proceeds from the BBQ will go to support Special Olympics, Boys and Girls Club and the Samaritan Center.



Springfield Sunrise Rotary (right) held a golf tournament.



Clinton Rotary (below) held a Fish Fry Fundraiser.



Jefferson City Evening Rotary (above) held a spaghetti dinner fundraiser.

Donations from Rotary Clubs Help Communities

Table Rock Lake Rotary purchased a piece of playground equipment, a xylophone, for Wolf Pack Park in Reeds Spring. Construction is scheduled to begin in July with hopes of having the playground open in August.



Cy Bortner (left) of Reeds Spring Schools accepts a \$5,000 check from Mark Hyde of the Rotary Club of Table Rock Lake.



Branson-Hollister Rotary presented a check for \$2,477 to LinkAbility's new Stone County Childcare Center from its 28th annual Flavor of the Ozarks fundraiser on May 8 (pictures of event below).



A flyer for the 28th Annual Tasting Event & Auction. The event is on Thursday, May 8th, 2025, at 5:30 PM in Americus by Wynneham. The flyer describes a tasting of food and spirits from over 20 area restaurants, along with a live and silent auction to benefit local Rotary programs and area non-profits. It is presented by the Rotary Club of Branson-Hollister. Tickets are \$25. Contact information for tickets is provided.



Willow Springs Rotary served lunch at the elementary school and presented a check to School Superintendent Marty Spence and Regina Roberts to provide funds for students who can't afford school lunches.



District 6080 Rotarians Take "Rotary On the Road"



Assistant Governor Janice Wilson, Virgie Mahan, President-elect Ursula Lebioda, President Suzanne Wilbur, Anneke Kirt, Ollie Jackson and Rosalind Pride.

Pulaski County Rotary hit the road on the fifth Tuesday for an outreach adventure, bringing their meeting to life for two beloved members, Ollie Jackson and Virgie Mahan, who reside at the St. James Veterans Home and can no longer attend meetings in person. They took the opportunity to update them on club activities and leadership, ensuring they felt included in the journey. Most importantly, they listened to their insights, gathering their thoughts on the club's future and potential grant ideas. President Suzanne Wilbur presented Ollie a plaque to thank him

for his contributions as a past board member of Good Samaritan of the Ozarks.



Belton-Raymore Rotary held a special event the "5th Wednesday" of April. Members and their guests gathered at La Nonna Italian Restaurant in Belton for some excellent food and fellowship.

Springfield Sunrise Rotary enjoyed Derby Day, celebrating and watching the Kentucky Derby together at the home of Anthony Roberts.



Branson Daybreakers met at Hammons Field for fellowship at the ballpark.



Springfield Rotary (below) teamed up with Bridget Bechtel for a walking tour of Sculpture Walk Springfield's downtown installations. Springfield Rotarians also visited the Rotaract Club of Springfield to show their support for their member Kenny Kabak during the President's Panel and played miniature golf with the Rotaract Club of Springfield at Getaway Golf.



Columbia South Throws a Social Unlike Any Other

Columbia South Rotary enjoyed a Rotary Dog Mixer at President Teri Walden's farm: 18 people and 10 canines. Rotarian puppy members, Carson and Brielle, welcomed the visitors of the four-legged variety.



Carson



Brielle gets some attention from Joe Weston.



Rotary
Club of Rolla



GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY - JUNE 27, 2025

OAK MEADOW COUNTRY CLUB

9:00 A.M. REGISTRATION 10:00 A.M. SHOTGUN START

3 PLAYER SCRAMBLE

\$10,000 HOLE-IN-ONE PRIZE

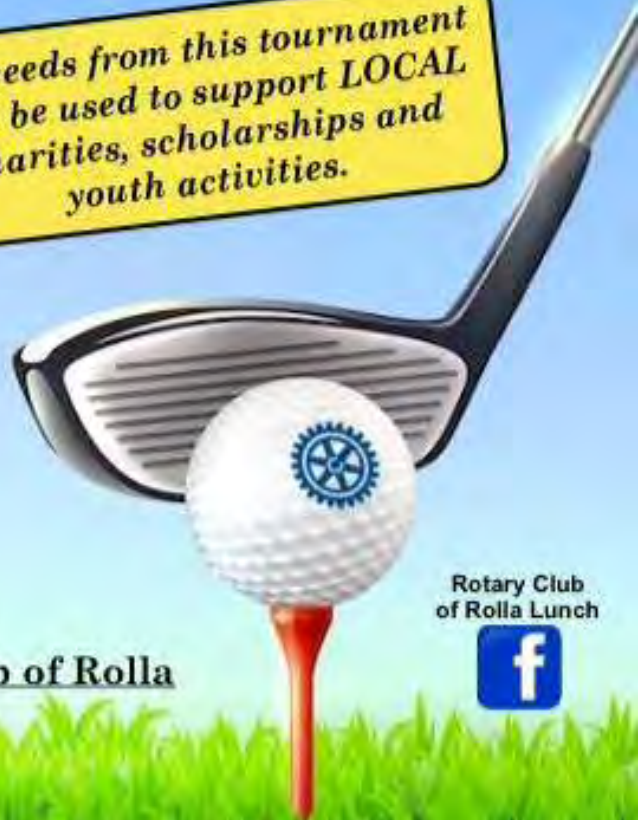
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- *PLATINUM**
- *GOLD**
- *CORPORATE**
- *HOLE SPONSOR**
- *BEVERAGE CART**
- *PUTTING CONTEST**

For questions, to register, donate
a raffle prize, or sponsor:
email sreed@fcbn.com
or call 573-308-2385

Make checks payable to **Rotary Club of Rolla**

*Proceeds from this tournament
will be used to support LOCAL
charities, scholarships and
youth activities.*



Rotary Club
of Rolla Lunch

