



Rotary continues to 'zoom' along despite COVID-19

A letter from District Governor Paul Reinert

Rotary Greetings!

I am amazed at how much more we are learning about Zoom and other forms of virtual communication in this time of COVID-19 and sheltering in place. While I genuinely miss the personal interaction with my friends and fellow Rotarians, we are an innovative group with many finding ways to stay connected through technology.

By my unofficial count, more than half of our Rotary clubs are "meeting" through a virtual connection. I have enjoyed attending some of these and seeing that the spirit of Rotary is very much alive in our District. It is clear that the pool of potential speakers is truly global now and I encourage clubs to take advantage of the opportunity presented with many interesting people around the world who would be willing and interested in speaking to your club.

I am saddened to announce that our District Rotary Youth Exchange committee made the difficult decision to cancel all youth exchanges inbound and outbound for the coming academic year. The issue was debated through many virtual

Masks have become commonplace for Rotarians doing service projects during the COVID-19 crisis.

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



meetings but in the end the decision was made respecting the difficulty navigating the regulations in multiple countries and acknowledging the uncertainty of the school restrictions for the coming academic year. Our district is a leader in quality youth exchange and we are committed to returning next year stronger than ever.

In this newsletter we are publishing the general principles concerning in-person meetings released by the Rotary International Board following their April meeting. The main message is to exercise caution, respect and comply with all local and national regulations, and to not mandate attendance at any Rotary events. When possible, we encourage providing a virtual option to any Rotary gatherings.

We have learned that the Rotary International Convention that had been scheduled for June in Honolulu will be held virtually June 20–26. Details are still being worked out, but it promises to be an epic gathering of world-class speakers and Rotary innovation. More information is expected soon and will be posted at <https://www.riconvention.org/en/honolulu>. This is an opportunity to get a taste of the true international scope of Rotary from the comfort of your own home.

I remind you to please consider supporting the Rotary Foundation with a monetary gift to the Annual Fund and to support our ongoing Polio eradication efforts. We are grateful for the life we enjoy as Missouri Rotarians and I hope you will consider joining as we all do our part to make a difference.

Please stay healthy, stay safe and—above all—Stay Connected! We need connections now more than ever.

Yours in Rotary Service,
Paul Reinert
District Governor 2019 -2020

International COVID project in Colombia approved

The Rotary Club of Springfield agreed to be the international partner joining with District 4281 in Colombia and the Bogotá Occidente club for a successful global grant to acquire needed ventilators



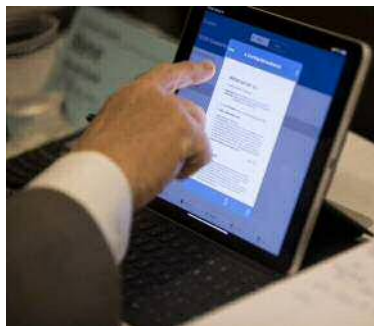
for a large public hospital in the capital city. The global grant application was submitted in late April and approved this week by the Rotary Foundation!

Council on Legislation representative to be chosen

The Rotary Council on Legislation is an important part of the governance process for Rotary International. Every three years, each district sends a representative to the Council, to review proposed legislation for the worldwide organization.

Every club and district is entitled to submit legislation proposals to the Council, and some of Rotary's most important work has resulted from Council action. Women were admitted into Rotary because of the action of the 1989 Council on Legislation, and PolioPlus was born as the result of the 1986 Council.

A nominating committee of Past District Governors has been formed to select the COL representative from our district for the next three years. Applicants must be a Past District Governor and current member in good standing of a Rotary club.



More information on the COL can be found at

<https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/about-rotary/councils>

RI offers guidance on in-person meetings

At its virtual Board meeting on April 21 -24, the Board of Directors of Rotary International approved the following general principles for the consideration of in-person meetings:

- The health and safety of all participants in Rotary programs, meetings, and events is of paramount importance.
- No in-person meeting or event shall be mandatory for any Rotary participant who may feel uncomfortable attending because of the pandemic.
- All conveners and organizers of Rotary meetings are strongly encouraged to consider all health concerns in deciding whether to hold in-person meetings.
- All conveners and organizers of Rotary meetings shall fully comply with all health and safety rules in effect in that location.

Please consult your club president or assistant governor if you have any questions on this guidance.

Nominating committee to select DG for 2023-2024

Past District Governor Melvin Platt will chair the Nominating Committee that will meet in June to review applicants and select the District Governor Nominee Designate. This individual will succeed our current lineup of future District Governors including Jacque Howard ('20-'21 Pulaski County), Joan Kramer ('21-'22 Jefferson City Evening) and John Horton ('22 -'23 Springfield Southeast). Any club Past-President in good standing may submit an application to Chair Melvin Platt by June 14. Mplatt.rotary@gmail.com

Virtual installation of district officers set for June 27



On Saturday morning, June 27, all district Rotarians are invited to attend a virtual gathering that will include the installation of next year's District Governor, Jacque Howard (pictured at left during district training in February).

In addition, District Governor Paul Reinert will present "this year in review."

There will be a short business meeting component where clubs will be asked to vote on the nominees to serve as future district governor, along with several other matters. Mark your calendars – details forthcoming in next month's newsletter.

June 2020						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
Jun 14: Flag Day		Jun 20: June Sobotics		Jun 21: Father's Day		

Mark your calendars for June 27

Improve speech-making skills with Toastmasters



As part of Rotary International's alliance with Toastmasters, they're offering new communication courses to help you grow your networks, improve your skills, and increase your impact in the community. Visit [Rotary's Learning Center](#) on a personal computer or iPad tablet to take the first two courses (Note: courses can't be accessed on mobile devices):

- [Develop a speech](#) — Learn how to write compelling speeches that take into account your topic, audience, and goal.
- [Deliver a speech](#) — Explore the effect your voice and body language can have on your audience.

These courses were developed by Toastmasters International; they include assignments to help you put your new skills into practice and peer evaluations to help you grow through collaboration. It may take a little longer to complete these courses than some of the courses in the Learning Center, but we believe it's worth it. And as many of us are staying home due to the global COVID-19 epidemic, you can take the courses and complete assignments from home. To learn more, watch our [new video](#).

These courses are just one of the many ways we're investing in Rotary and Rotaract members. Practicing and improving your skills can help you succeed in your personal and professional endeavors. And using your skills within Rotary and Rotaract strengthens our clubs and increases our impact.

Please note that all Rotarians and Rotaractors with My Rotary accounts will have access to these courses. If you don't have a My Rotary account, learn [how to create one](#).

Share your feedback by completing the evaluation at the end of each course. Your input helps us develop new and better courses. And watch for more courses to be available later this year.

Learn more about Rotary's alliance with Toastmasters at rotary.org/toastmasters. If you have any questions, write to toastmastersalliance@rotary.org.

Rotary responds to COVID-19 with grants to clubs

Rotary District 6080 recently made \$25,000 available to match COVID-19 response projects funded by any of its 51 clubs in Missouri. “This is an amazing opportunity for our clubs to respond to needs in our community. Both Rotary International and District 6080 are taking on a huge last-minute workload to make this happen,” Michael Brady, district grants chair, said. Following are clubs that applied for and received grants:

Belton-Raymore

The Belton-Raymore Rotary Club purchased 100 Gowns, 100 face masks, seven re-usable face shields, and other personal protective equipment items for the Cass County Health Foundation. Total project budget: \$4,400



Columbia

The Rotary Club of Columbia partnered with the Voluntary Action Center (VAC) to provide housing stability through rent assistance, mortgage assistance and motel vouchers to households adversely affected by the COVID-19 crisis. The club provided services to residents of Boone County with household income equal to or less than 200 percent of Federal poverty guidelines. This also facilitated, to the extent possible, compliance with the City of Columbia and Boone County stay-at-home order by persons experiencing homelessness and housing instability. Total project budget: \$5,600



Columbia Sunrise-Southwest

Columbia Sunrise-Southwest used funds to cover expenses associated with emergency childcare at Rainbow House for healthcare and front line workers, including food and educational supplies. Total project budget: \$4,000



Fulton

The Fulton Rotary Club provided utility assistance to clients of the Coalition Against Rape and Domestic Violence who have lost employment due to COVID 19 shutdowns. These clients have left violent relationships to establish their own housing situations, but the lack of a paycheck could force them into homelessness or to return to an abusive relationship. Total project budget: \$1,000



With a grant to Our House: Caring for Callaway's Homeless, Fulton Rotary is accomplishing two goals—supporting local, struggling businesses during COVID-19 while feeding the homeless at the same time. The Rotary club purchases gift cards from participating restaurants, which helps them stay in business. The restaurants then provide meals to Our House, which expanded its operation from overnight lodging to 24 hours a day to keep the vulnerable homeless population safe. Total project budget: \$1,000



Jefferson City Evening, Jefferson City Breakfast



Jefferson City Evening and Jefferson City Breakfast Rotary clubs recognized that due to the economic downturn, many residents of Jefferson City and Cole County were experiencing financial hardship

and unable to make monthly rent or mortgage payments and utility payments. The clubs partnered with the Samaritan Center to provide support to individuals and families directly affected by the pandemic. Total project budget: \$7,800

Lake Area Rotary Clubs

Four Lake area Rotary Clubs—Laurie-Sunrise Beach, Camdenton, Lake Ozark and Lake Ozark Daybreak—worked together to assist their school districts with the Buddy Pack program developed by the Food Bank of Central and Northeast Missouri. Buddy Packs are backpacks filled with food and distributed to the children every Friday. During the recent COVID-19 stay-at-home period, children no longer had access to free or reduced price meals at school. The school districts around the Lake of the Ozarks stepped up to meet the nutritional needs of their students in several ways, including continuing to provide Buddy Packs. This joint Rotary project aims to assist the schools in carrying out this mission. Total project budget: \$8,000



Springfield area clubs

The five Springfield Rotary clubs and Rotaract joined together to pay for meals and educational supplies for children of healthcare and emergency response personnel that are getting daycare services at the local Discovery Center. An interactive hands-on science center for all ages, the Discovery Center temporarily closed its doors to the public March 17 and then opened its award-winning STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education center and childcare to healthcare workers and first responders. The Discovery Center offers care from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. every day. It is the only resource providing free childcare for healthcare workers and first responders seven days a week. Learning continues for kids at the center and each child gets three meals and a snack every day. The Springfield Rotary clubs donated funds to cover some of the costs incurred by the Discovery Center. Total project budget: \$8,400



Clubs provide assistance during COVID-19

In addition to those clubs receiving COVID-19 response grants, a number of other clubs did their part to provide assistance to their communities.

Boonville

The Boonville Rotary Club held a community food drive April 25 at W-K Ford/Chrysler to benefit the Neighbors Helping Neighbors food pantry and the New Franklin Cares food pantry. Even though the



weather was a bit rainy, the community showed up big time to help out those in need of food assistance. Those who donated five or more cans of food received a home made mask created by Mary Matyas (mother of Rotarian Jasen Matyas). Each contributor also received a voucher for a free car wash, compliments of W-K Ford/Chrysler! Over \$500 cash was contributed by approximately 125 community members in addition to the almost 1,500 items of food for the pantries. “What a great community service project for our club! I was very proud of our Rotary club and our community for stepping up big for those who need us most in our community,” Rob Gordon, club president, said.

Jefferson City West Rotary Club

Jefferson City West Rotary Club and its members donated \$3,025 to the United Way of Mid-Missouri to be used for COVID-19 relief in Cole County. Ann Bax, director of the United Way, accepted the check from Tim Haas, club president, via a Zoom meeting in April.



Lake Ozark

The Lake Ozark Rotary Club gave Wonderland Camp an emergency grant of \$2,500. The camp will be closed for the summer to keep campers safe, so other revenue sources are being explored. The camp received the Payment Protection Plan loan/grant from the government and will be able to pay staff through June with that money. To keep the lights on and doors open they have applied for all grants possible. They have also booked groups of people who are not considered vulnerable to rent the facilities and they plan to hold their fall camps and possibly additional weekend camps in July and August if and when things are more stable for their own campers. A Fiona Way concert, Casino Night and Party With a Purpose are planned.



Lebanon



In response to COVID-19 related job loss and economic hardship, Lebanon Rotarians were actively involved in establishing **FUNDS 4 FOOD**, a community-wide fundraising campaign launched April 13. Money donated to FUNDS 4 FOOD will be used by four Lebanon food pantries to purchase food from Ozarks Food Harvest. FUNDS 4 FOOD will continue to raise money to support Lebanon food pantries during the COVID 19 pandemic until the needs of the community return to a more manageable level for food pantries in crisis.



At the April 16 ZOOM meeting, Lebanon Rotary pledged \$2,020 to FUNDS 4 FOOD. The donation was made possible from catering costs not incurred during four weeks of cancelled meetings due to COVID-19 social distance guidelines. This provided Lebanon Rotary members with the opportunity to make a difference in the community by helping area food pantries feed our neighbors in need.

Rotarians provide 'Service Above Self'

The Rolla Rotary Club used their 2019-20 District Simplified Grant to construct and install four "Living Libraries" throughout the community to encourage the love of reading. The idea is for people to donate a book and borrow another one. The libraries are located along well-traveled areas, such as walking/biking trails, parks and recreation areas. The libraries cost \$2,500 to build (\$1,500 from Rolla Rotary and \$1,000 from the District). They are about the size of a small phone booth with a concrete floor, wooden building and plexiglas front. Two of the libraries were built with a bench for the visitor to sit on and read.



Fayette Rotary Club members share their happiness with community organizations and activities through the club's Happy Can project. Each Rotary meeting, the Happy Can is passed among the members to collect dollars for a worthy cause. The contributions are tallied at the end of each month and presented to that month's specified cause. The average amount contributed per month is over \$100.



Organizations and activities receiving money from Rotary through the Happy Can Project during the 2019-2020 club year are the Fayette Festival of the Arts, Fayette High School Interact Club, Howard County Wellness, Holiday House, Fayette Ministerial Alliance, Fayette Music Boosters, Worldwide Mobility (PET), Fayette Athletic Boosters, Fayette Pool Passes, Scouts of Fayette, Fayette Fireworks and Quilts of Valor.

Online Grant Management Seminar offered

The Rotary Foundation has made available an online [Grant Management Seminar](#) learning plan to assist in qualifying clubs for grants during the next Rotary year. This online seminar can serve as an alternative to in-person training and is accessible to anyone with a My Rotary account.

This guide answers some [frequently asked questions](#) about the online Grant Management Seminar. Since the courses are available online, people can complete them at a time and place that's convenient for them.

RYLA cancelled

The Rotary Missouri RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) Academy has been cancelled for 2020 due to COVID-19 concerns. Rotary clubs that have already paid for the youth leadership training will receive a full refund of \$450 per student.

EMPOWERING

RESCHEDULED!
JOIN US
FOR THIS
EXCITING EVENT!

AUGUST 15, 2020 • 10am - 3pm

NH Scheppers Distributing
1306 Hathman Place
Columbia, MO 65201

\$30 per person includes lunch

REGISTER: tinyurl.com/ewrotary