



4-Way Today



Rotary District 6460 – Rotary Serving Humanity

P.O. Box 311, Springfield, IL 62705-0311 rotarydistrict6460.org

Newsletter Editor, PDG Dave Knieriem

October 2019



District Governor Letter to the Membership

Dear fellow District 6460 Rotarians,

As I write this, it is early December and there is a light blanket of snow on the grass today. It is definitely starting to look and feel like the holiday season. I hope you all are enjoying it.

My tour of the 49 clubs in District 6460 continues. As of today, I have visited 39 clubs, and let me tell you, it has been by far the most wonderful part of my first five months as District Governor. To get to see all the Rotary clubs and members, and to learn more about all the good things that are happening in their communities, is a real privilege. I always walk away from a meeting feeling energized and inspired by all the great people I meet. Thanks to you all for your warm hospitality.

The 2019 District Conference was held in Peoria in early November. With a theme of ‘Rotary Plays in Peoria’, the conference accomplished the following, by the numbers:

- 266 total attendees
- 13 awesome Rotary Youth Exchange students lent a hand
- 1 new Interact club was chartered. Way to go, Carlinville!
- 1500 calendars were wrapped as holiday gifts for senior citizens during our service project
- 2 media outlets provided coverage
- \$3,750 raised for PolioPlus. When matched 2:1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, that’s a total impact of \$11,250!
- 1 AMAZING conference committee that made it all happen

It is always very difficult to calculate an exact Return on Investment (ROI) on the amount of time and money that goes into putting on the district conference each year. There is, of course, a budget bottom line, and that is definitely an important consideration. However, I do feel that it’s important to consider those items that

IN THIS MONTH’S EDITION:

District Governor’s Letter	1-2
Farewell to PDG Ed Peterka	3-4
District Membership Initiative Team	5
Public Image Grant Information	5
RYLA 2020	6-9
Public Image Update	10
Club News Submission/Information Request	11-12
Club/District News	
Jacksonville – 100% PHF Club	13-14
Youth Study Abroad Change Lives	15-16
VTT Team Update	17
Membership/Foundation Reports Nov 2019	18

Important Dates

December – Disease Prevention/Treatment Month
January – Vocational Service Month

December 15, 2019
 Early registration discount ends for the Rotary International Convention

February 1, 2020
 Presidents’ Elect Training Seminar Orientation (PETS Orientation)
 Springfield, Illinois

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 Presidents’ Elect Training Seminar Orientation (PETS Orientation)
 Springfield, Illinois

March 6-8, 2020
 Presidents’ Elect Training Seminar Orientation (PETS)
 Itasca, Illinois

March 21, 2020
 District Team Training Seminar (DTTS)
 Springfield, Illinois

April 25, 2020
 District Assembly
 Lincoln Land Community College
 Springfield, Illinois

June 6-10, 2020
 Rotary International Convention
 Hawai’i Convention Center
 Honolulu, Hawaii



are harder to measure, yet still of primary importance: did we expose newer members or first-time attendees to “Rotary on a bigger stage” than their own local club? If so, did they walk away feeling excited, inspired, better informed? Were any new partnerships made? Did we grow any of our Rotary programs, like Youth Exchange, Interact, Rotaract, Vocational Training Team, etc.? Did we promote goodwill and better friendships? Did we have fun? And finally, is a member likely to attend a conference in the future, or to encourage their fellow members to do so? All these factors, and more, are part of the overall ROI equation in my mind. And the good news? I have received so much positive feedback over the past month from attendees that indicate, YES, we hit the target in putting on an event that was a good use of both time and money for those involved. A big THANK YOU to all who attended and / or volunteered!

A special note to all current club presidents and presidents-elect: please make sure you have Saturday, February 1st on your calendar for the joint PETS-Orientation / Mid-Year Summit meeting at Scheel’s in Springfield. More info about the agenda will be coming soon, but please be sure to attend. It will be a fast-paced day of training, planning and fellowship that is just a really good use of your time. Stay tuned for more from District Governor-Elect Maura and yours truly soon.

In closing, many of you know by now that the concept of the ‘Family of Rotary’ is very important to me. My wife Pam and I have two children, a thirteen-year-old daughter and a ten-year-old son. One of the best parts of being District Governor is that I have been able to involve my family in so many aspects of the job: club visits, service projects, attending International Conventions, and more. And most especially in this holiday season, I would like to encourage all Rotarians to consider doing the same. How can you involve your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, spouse, partner, etc. in your service to Rotary? Let’s not make Rotary this mysterious thing that we do one day a week and then come home to our families. Instead, let’s expose them to all the great things we do, and let’s firmly plant the concept of ‘Service Above Self’ as part of our family’s DNA. Because remember...nobody is making us do this...we GET to do this. What a blessing to share with others.

It’s an honor to serve alongside all of you. THANK YOU for all that you do for Rotary.

Best,
DG Mark

JOIN LEADERS • EXCHANGE IDEAS • TAKE ACTION



Farewell to PDG Ed Peterka

From District Governor Mark Roberts: Fellow D6460 Rotarians, I regret to pass along the news that Ed Peterka, Past District Governor (1996-1997) passed away on November 26th. Although I did not know Ed personally, I was honored several years ago to receive the Ed Peterka Leader Bell award, named in recognition of Ed's long track record of service to our District, and beyond. Please note Ed's obituary (reproduced below), including details of the upcoming services. Rotary lost a good servant this week, let's all think good thoughts for Ed's family at this time.

Editors Note: I knew Ed Peterka very well, and considered him to be a good friend, and a GREAT Rotarian. I will always cherish the friendship we had. Ed will be missed by ALL!

Obituary:

Republished with permission of the in The Galesburg Register-Mail (Obituary published on Nov. 28, 2019).

GALESBURG - Dr. Edward S. Peterka, 89, died peacefully at 12:08 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019, at his home in Galesburg.

Edward was born Dec. 10, 1929, in Aurora, Minnesota, the son of John and Mary (Perna) Peterka. He married Jean M. Hendrickson on Aug. 15, 1959, in The Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Aurora, Minnesota.

Edward is survived by his wife of 60 years, Jean of Galesburg; and five children, daughter Kathryn (Kurt) Hopfensperger of Cheyenne, Wyoming, daughter Karin (Steve) Loyola of Altadena, California, daughter Kristine (Bart) Miles of Woodland Hills, California, son Edward R. (Deborah) Peterka of Geneva, and daughter Jeanmarie Anderson of Galesburg; along with eight grandchildren, Kristine, Karolyn and Katie Hopfensperger, Luke and Matthew Miles, Zoe and Mia Peterka, and Janey Anderson. Edward is also survived by his sister, Gabriella (John) Goritchan of Edina, Minnesota; his sister-in-law, Dorothy Peterka of St. Cloud, Minnesota; and many nieces and nephews.



Edward was preceded in death by his parents; his brothers, Martin, John, Charles and Philip; his sisters, Mary, Ann, Christine and Margaret; his son-in-law, Glenn Anderson; and his many brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law.

Edward graduated as salutatorian from Aurora High School in Aurora, Minnesota, in 1947. After serving in the [Korean War](#), he attended the [University of Minnesota](#) in Minneapolis and received a bachelor of arts degree in 1955 in interdepartmental studies, with minors in philosophy, history, mathematics, physics and abnormal psychology. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in 1956, graduating magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. Edward attended medical school at the University of Minnesota and received his M.D. degree in 1961. From 1961 to 1962, he interned at Ancker General Hospital in St. Paul. He began his residency in dermatology in 1963 at the University of Minnesota, and he received a Master of Science in dermatology degree from there in 1965, writing his thesis on cutaneous carbohydrate studies. From 1965 to 1968, Edward worked as an assistant professor in dermatology at the University of Colorado Medical School in Denver. In 1968 he moved his family to Galesburg and began a dermatology practice serving Galesburg and the surrounding areas. From 1970 to 1986, Edward also served as a part-time associate professor and head of the Department of Dermatology at the Peoria School of Medicine in Peoria. Edward also served as a part-time clinical associate professor teaching dermatology at the Abraham Lincoln School of Medicine at the [University of Illinois](#) at Chicago. He was a member of the American Academy of Dermatology and the Chicago Dermatological Society, and was a charter member and first president of the Illinois Dermatological Society. After practicing dermatology for over 40 years in Galesburg, Edward retired on Dec. 15, 2011.

Edward was also an active member of the Galesburg [Rotary Club](#) since 1968, serving as president and then as district governor from 1996 to 1997, when he completed a medical clinic project in Nigeria. He received the International Rotary Service Above Self Award in 2009. He also volunteered on a medical mission to Peru with

Rotary. Edward also served at various times as a Grand Knight in the Galesburg Knights of Columbus, as the president of the Prairie Council Boy Scouts, and as the president of the Knox County Medical Society. He was a longtime member of Corpus Christi Catholic Church and then Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church.

Edward was an avid golfer, traveler and writer, having published numerous scientific articles, as well as books on a variety of topics. He also created a board game and several educational card games, and in retirement took singing lessons and taught himself to play the guitar. Edward gave generously of his time to always help others, especially those in need, and his tireless energy, sense of humor and enthusiasm for life were an inspiration to all who knew and loved him. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family, who will miss him dearly.

Visitation will be 9 to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019, at Hinchliff-Pearson-West Funeral Directors and Cremation Services Galesburg Chapel. Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, 2019, at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Galesburg, with entombment to follow at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Galesburg. Repast to follow. Memorials may be made in Edward's memory to the Galesburg Rotary Foundation, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church or Corpus Christi Catholic Church. Online condolences may be made at www.h-p-w.com.

REST IN PEACE, ED ... WE WILL MISS YOU!

District Membership Initiative Team

Provided by Jill Pietrusinski PDG 2017-2018 (D-6510), Assistant Rotary Coordinator, Zone 31

Do you want to attract more members in your club and engage them in more service to your community?

Let me share how you can attract energetic, inspired, excited new members while keeping the current members engaged.

We have introduced a **Membership Initiative** team in your District to do just that! Some clubs are having success with annual net growth, yet many others are staying neutral, or losing members each year.



Our clubs incorporating a more flexible model are having the most success and attracting newer, engaged members. We don't just need younger members, we need young thinkers, open minded individuals who are willing to try new things in new ways to be an attractive organization in today's busy society. Rotary offers what statistics show people are looking for; a chance to join like-minded people to network and make a difference. **So how do we share that opportunity and keep our members engaged?**

Your District Membership chair, supporting your club with a team of facilitators, can help with action plans to support attraction and engagement. That is exactly why we have developed the **Membership Initiative**. The Districts and clubs who have participated are seeing results. **THIS WORKS** and is customized for your Club and your Club Culture.



What's in it for you? An opportunity to have a focused effort on **your club with your members choosing what is best for your club culture!** This is not top down; it is a bottom up strategy that is all about **YOUR CLUB**. Your District Membership chair has a trained team ready to go so if they haven't reached out yet, **please call them and schedule a session today!** You'll be glad you did. We look forward to working together soon. Contact your District Membership Chair (PDG Doug Huff – dhuffwash@aol.com) or Assistant Rotary Coordinator for any questions.

Public Image Grant Applications Are Now Available

Trent West, District 6460 Public Image Team, Rotary Club of Metro East

The 2019-2020 Public Image Grant Application is **NOW AVAILABLE** on the District Website or at <https://rotarydistrict6460.org/wp-content/uploads/Forms/2019-20PublicImageGrantApplication.doc> (Word Format) or <https://rotarydistrict6460.org/wp-content/uploads/Forms/2019-20PublicImageGrantApplication.pdf> (Fillable PDF Format).

The Public Image Committee has \$10,000.00 available in grant funds for District 6460 Rotary Clubs that want to request funds for use in promoting Rotary in your area through using the Rotary Brand Center and People of Action Campaign. Contact Trent West at trentswest@gmail.com and Tiffany Mathis at tmathis@bgccil.org with any questions

Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA) 2020

Cathy Jo Littleton-Wahl, Rotary District 6460 Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA) Chair, Rotary Club of Jacksonville

Spring is coming soon, and so is the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy (RYLA) weekend at beautiful Lake Williamson in Carlinville, IL - April 17, 18, and 19, 2020.

RYLA is Rotary's premier training program for high school students, emphasizing leadership, citizenship and personal growth. These skills are reinforced with games, competitions and team-building activities to make this an enjoyable, educational and enriching weekend for participants.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: The weekend begins on Friday, April 17th at 4 PM and ends promptly on Sunday, April 19th at 12 Noon.

- RYLA is open to High School Sophomores or Juniors who have not attended RYLA in the past.
- District 6460's goal is to have two or more students from each high school (*not including Youth Exchange Inbound/Outbound students*) in District 6460 attend the RYLA weekend. We need YOUR CLUB to sponsor future leaders from your area high school(s) to attend this event!
- District Rotaract Clubs have been working on programming for several months and will provide a variety of plenary and breakout sessions designed to promote and enhance leadership skills, citizenship, and personal growth.
- District 6460 Rotarian (trained/experienced) volunteers will be in attendance throughout the weekend.
- Youth Exchange Inbound/Outbound Students will be sponsored by the Youth Exchange and RYLA Committees. (no charge to the clubs for these students)
- **Cost for the weekend is \$225 per student *IF* the three-page registration form and checks are postmarked/received *before March 20, 2020.***
- Registrations received after March 20, 2020 will be \$250/student.
- **The registration cutoff date will be 5:00 pm, April 10, 2020.**
- Requests for refunds will be addressed on an individual basis after the event. Refunds will only be considered for those issues outside the control of the student.

The three-page registration form, club instruction sheet, and promotional piece are available District website at <http://www.rotarydistrict6460.org> .

Students will benefit greatly from this program. It is not essential that the high school has an Interact club. In fact, sending a student to RYLA is a great first step to getting an Interact club started at your high school! Clubs have also had success in recruiting students for Youth Exchange once they have attended RYLA and interacted with the Inbound/Outbound students in attendance. RYLA alums have reported that they look for college opportunities that include Rotaract Clubs after attending RYLA. Rotaract members have been known to join their local Rotary Clubs after college. So many doors are opened, and experiences provided through interaction with other students at RYLA!

Remember: early registration applications must be postmarked by Friday, March 20, 2020 and MUST include the early registration fee of \$225 per student.

Late Registration fee is \$250.

For further information on the RYLA weekend, please contact:
District 6460 RYLA Chair:
Cathy Jo Littleton-Wahl at 217-883-1155 or wahlcathy@gmail.com

For registration questions, contact:
RYLA Registrar:
Jean Jumper at 217-370-7067 or jumper99@mchsi.com

We have a fantastic RYLA weekend planned and look forward to your club sponsoring future Rotary leaders.



Rotary  Rotary District 6460 and District Rotaract Clubs Present:



RYLA | Rotary Youth Leadership Academy

Plan to Attend Now:
When: April 17th at 4p.m. -to- April 19th at 12 Noon
Where: Lake Williamson Conference Center
17820 Lakeside Dr. • Carlinville, IL.



GIVE THE EXPERIENCE

Here's your chance to provide the experience for students in your community to become LEADERS in their school and community. With RYLA training, students can gain the skills they need to be SUCCESSFUL in future education and in their future careers. CHALLENGE them at RYLA! Let them GROW and EXCEL with other leaders. The RYLA 2020 leadership retreat weekend will be packed with learning, friends and a ton of fun!

FRIENDS • UNITY • FUN • CHALLENGES • TEAMWORK



For more information and to get a RYLA application, please visit:

<http://rotarydistrict6460.org/service/youth-service/ryla-2/>

(Check site for current forms beginning Sep 15 2019)

HOW TO SEND A STUDENT TO:

Want to send a student to RYLA? It's EASY!

Well...it IS Rotary...so there's paperwork. Have one member of your club do this:

1. GET YOUR FORMS:

All of the forms you need will be on the District Website beginning September 15, 2019. Go get 'em! (and, the website in case you aren't sure: rotarydistrict6460.org)

2. CHOOSE YOUR STUDENTS:

Choose TWO Students!! Sophomores or Juniors are best. Check your Interact Club for possible RYLA Candidates (tell them they will have a BLAST!).

3. FILL OUT ALL 3 PAGES OF THE FORM:

Open the Registration, Medical Release, and Activity Waiver Instructions and Forms. Fill out the required information, and then print for signatures. Send the completed forms and registration fee to the RYLA Registrar. **Note: Tell students forms need be sent to the RYLA registrar, NOT the school.**

**NOTE: RYLA application form ,
information
and instructions are available at:**

<http://rotarydistrict6460.org/service/youth-service/ryla-2/>

4. MAKE THE PAYMENT:

Make the payment for your students on time. (Let the 4-Way Test be your guide: If your payment is late, pay the late fee.)

5. CHECK ALL PAGES OF THE REGISTRATION FORM:

Make sure your students know about, AND can access, the Form:

- *Registration:* Signed by both student and parent
- *Activity Waiver:* Signed by both student and parent
- *Medical Release:* MUST be signed by parent

6. GET 'EM THERE:

Your Rotary Club MUST arrange transportation to and from Lake Williamson in Carlinville, Illinois.

That's it! Your students will be on their way to an incredibly rewarding weekend of FUN, FELLOWSHIP and LEARNING

How your Club will benefit from sending a student to RYLA?

- You'll get an energized program given by your RYLA student
- Your club may have a potential Outbound from their RYLA experience
- Your club has the opportunity to start, or strengthen, your own Interact Club

Public Image Update

Trent West, Public Image Committee Chair, Rotary Club of Metro East

The practice of public relations varies throughout the world. Regardless of cultural differences from one country to another, all Rotary clubs have audiences with whom they should communicate, including the media, local government officials, the business community, civic leaders, and other organizations, as well as qualified prospective members and people directly affected by Rotary service projects. Developing a message for these audiences and finding an appropriate way to deliver it is public relations in action.

The District 6460 Public Image Committee Members, Trent West and Tiffany Mathis are offering to visit your club and provide a program on promoting your club's public image. The focus of this presentation is on the use of the new Rotary Brand Center (<https://my.rotary.org/en>) to increase the awareness in your community of the amazing service your club provides, as well as build general awareness of Rotary International. Please contact Trent by email at trentswest@gmail.com and Tiffany by email at tmathis@bgccil.org if you would like one of them to visit your club. If you would like the Public Image PowerPoint Presentation, please request it.

Public relations efforts are vital to Rotary's continued growth and ability to provide much needed service. Creating a positive image for Rotary is the responsibility of every Rotarian, both locally and globally. Rotary founder Paul Harris said it himself: "In the promotion of understanding, it is important to reach large numbers, non-Rotarians as well as Rotarians, and you cannot reach large numbers privately." The Public Image team continues to improve our efforts and outreach to ensure that you get the resources you need in a format easy to understand. Below is one of the videos that can be found in the Rotary Brand Center that is ready for anyone to use in their public image campaign:

<https://vimeo.com/361128251>

SOME OF THE ROTARY BRAND CENTER RESOURCES:

- Logos, Images, and Overlays
- Radio Ads
- Video Ads with and without sound
- Brochures and Banners

District 6460 Public Image Committee Contact Information:

Trent West, Public Image Committee Chair
trentswest@gmail.com
618-401-9336



Club News and Events – Adding Your Stories to the District

We have been receiving numerous of news stories from our clubs throughout the District for programs, events, and projects that they are PROUD of. We will start sharing ALL of these remarkable stories to the district membership. Please send ANY newsworthy event that you are proud of (and you SHOULD BE) that your clubs are doing, and please share these items with all of us in the District. I would LOVE to fill the newsletter with all the WONDERFUL things that all of you do every single day in your communities and in the world.

I have started adding club stories on the District Website. However, I am now asking clubs to submit their stories via DACdb’s Club eZStories. I have noticed that many clubs are posting stories in DACdb ezStory but are not making it available to the District to publish on the website. To easily make your stories available to the District, here is what you need to do:

When Adding your New Club Story, click on the “Share” button as noted in the example below. Also ensure that under the “Show Story In:” that “Websites” checked.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `/Rotary/SecLogin3.cfm?CFID=129651258&CFTOKEN=91397434`. The page title is "Add New Club Mason City Story". Below the title, there is a "Share" button circled in red and a "Save" button. The form contains the following fields and options:

- Information** / **Contents** tabs
- *Story Name:** [Text input] This is the Title of your Story, as it appears internally
- *Headline:** [Text input] Enter Story Title / Headline as it will appear when it is published
- Story State:** Draft Review Approved Published
- *Story Start Date:** 07/31/2018 Start showing the Story as of this this date (default is today)
- Post Until:** [Text input] Show the Story Until this date. Blank means forever -- until deleted.
- Story Sequence:** 0 This is the sequence your story will appear on the listing (lowest number first). The sequence number is important only when your story is in an Approved and/or Published state.
- Main Story Image:** Choose File No file chosen. This is the main story image. It will be alternated down the page. Only one (1) main image is allowed per story. Additional images can be uploaded and added in the ezStory summary or description.
- Show Story In:** Websites * Home Page Dashboard ezBulletin *
- Enable Comments:** Enable Comments (blogging) on website
- Include:** Story Date ByLine Edited By Story separator
- Category:** No Categories defined
- By Line:** Knieriem, David W. Name to appear on the By Line (if displayed).
- Target RoleKey(s):** [Text input] Optional, enter Club positions you only want this story to be viewed by (e.g., S,SE,T). Leave blank for all members.

Next, in the dialog box that will appear, chse “Copy” the story to the District, and then click “Save”.

You can share this ezStory with the District list of stories by either making a **copy** of it or **moving** it. Stories that are shared will be in District story listing in a *draft* publication state.

Copy this story to the District ezStory list.

This will leave a copy of the story here. Changes made here to this story after sharing it with the District will not be reflected in the District copy.

Move this story to the District ezStory list.

The ezStory will be moved to the District ezStory list and the ezStory will no longer appear in the club's story listings.

If you need additional information and instructions of how to create and save ezStories in DACdb, please go to: <http://rotarydistrict6460.org/wp-content/uploads/Forms/Training/CreateStory.pdf> or view the DACdb video at <https://vimeo.com/278726876>

I ask that all clubs develop, submit and upload their own stories to ezStory in DACdb for publication on the District Website and the District Newsletter. If you need assistance with this, or have questions on how to do this, please contact me at dave@dkofficeconsulting.com or 217-899-5526. I will be happy to assist you.

THANKS

DAVE

Dave Knieriem, Past District Governor 2014-15
District Newsletter Editor and Webmaster



Jacksonville Becomes 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club

Reprinted by permission of the Jacksonville Journal Courier.

After honoring 24 club members as Paul Harris Fellows, the Jacksonville Rotary Club on Friday became the sixth in its district to be named a 100% Paul Harris Club.

The Paul Harris Fellow award is given to those who have donated, or have had donated on their behalf, \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International. It is named for Rotary Founder Paul Harris.

“Jacksonville is an outstanding club in all aspects,” Rotary District Gov. Mark Roberts said. “They are one of the finest clubs in our district.”



The club has had more than 300 members inducted as a fellow since 1970. Currently, all 98 active members have been honored as fellows.

Jacksonville Rotary Club has donated \$407,859 to the foundation over the years, including \$302,000 that has been donated to honor individuals the club feels meet high professional and personal standards.

With Friday’s induction of the 24 fellows, every member of the club is a fellow and award recipient.

Keith Lape, a past president of Jacksonville Rotary Club and a past Rotary district governor, said the club started donating and recognizing people for service they’ve provided for the community.

The Rotary Foundation funds projects locally and internationally in areas of literacy, clean water, sanitation, maternal and fetal health, peace-conflict resolution and its signature cause — the eradication of polio.

“Now there is more effort to do local, countrywide and international projects,” Lape said. “This club is being recognized for putting service above self.”

Karen Walker, co-chairwoman for the Jacksonville club’s foundation committee, said the club has both members and non-members who have been recognized for their donations or honored with a donation in their name for their work in the community.

“For several years, only one or two members were recognized,” Walker said. “Finally, in 2019, the club had only 24 members who were not yet Paul Harris members. With donations of points by some Rotarians and donations of club points, the club was able to reach the 100% mark.”
The club is excited for the designation, Walker said.

“It’s a very prestigious award and it shows the commitment of the club to support Rotary International and what the funds go to, both locally and globally,” Walker said.

Of the 49 clubs in the district, only six clubs have been named 100% Paul Harris clubs, Roberts said.

“By becoming a 100% Paul Harris Club, this club is setting a great example to other clubs and new members coming after them,” Roberts said. “It’s a unique and significant thing that Jacksonville has done. They are showing the importance of supporting all the programs of The Rotary Foundation.”

EDITOR’S NOTE (Provided by Melissa Pantier, Rotary Club of Jacksonville):

The 24 Rotarians who received Paul Harris Awards are:

Debra Bailey
Richard Todd Cody
Celeste Hill
Julie Ketcham
Erich Marks
Kelly Pool
Jeff Soltermann

Scott Boston
Katie Crumley
Joe Horabik
Linda Lonergan
Joan McQuillan
Nicole Riley
Kaylob Tang
Amber Wright

Mickey Bourne
Sydney Hembrough
Marcy Jones
JaNell Lyle
Trista Moody
Christina Rollins
Matt Torres
Melissa Zoerner



Rotary  PEOPLE OF ACTION

The
Rotary
Foundation 

Study Abroad CHANGES LIVES!

Karen Ackerman Witter

Reprinted with permission of the Illinois Times

Karen Ackerman Witter is a freelance writer whose goal is to connect people, organizations and ideas to achieve greater results. She was a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar at Bangor University in Wales in the late 1970s, which was a life-changing experience.

Study abroad changes lives

Three Springfield High students return from a year overseas

By Karen Ackerman Witter



Photo courtesy of Warmowski Photography

Mandy Lynn, Yasmin Martinez-Powell and Maia Ojugbele.

“I learned so much about myself and discovered how to deal with situations in a different way,” says Maia Ojugbele, a Rotary Youth Exchange student who spent a year in Taiwan. Maia, Mandy Lynn and Yasmin Martinez-Powell are all Springfield High School students who traded a year at SHS for a year overseas. Mandy went to Wakayama, Japan, and Yasmin was in Tokyo. Maia and Yasmin are back at SHS as seniors. Mandy is a freshman at SIU-Edwardsville.

Maia’s mother, Vel Ojugbele, saw the opportunity as a way for her daughter to prepare for college and become more independent. Maia went to Ashikaga, Japan, through the Sister Cities program. This piqued her interest in studying in Japan for a full school year. Initially she was disappointed to be assigned to Taiwan instead of Japan, but Maia now is glad she went to Taiwan. She learned an entirely different language, met many wonderful people

and learned new problem-solving strategies after being immersed in the Taiwanese culture. She considers it a life-changing experience that enabled her to grow and mature.

Maia lived in Taoyuan, 45 minutes south of Taipei. She was impressed by the beautiful countryside. She is proud that she can talk about her dreams and philosophy in Chinese. A highlight was experiencing the spectacle of the sky lantern festival where she wrote her hopes and dreams on a paper lantern released into the sky. She says there is “the me before and the me after” her experience. She discovered things about herself and moved ahead in life.

In Tokyo Yasmin attended the Keio Girls Senior High School that helps girls thrive in a male-dominated society. Yasmin says she became more independent, learned to solve problems, matured and grew more confident. “I had great experiences, feel older and my perspective of the world grew a lot bigger,” says Yasmin. Highlights were visiting the Hiroshima Memorial Park, going to Tokyo Disneyland, climbing Mount Fuji and making friends with Rotary Youth Exchange students from many other countries.

Yasmin’s mother, Keisha Powell, says it takes a certain type of parent to send her teenage child off for a year so far away. Yasmin’s parents told her they first needed to see that she was committed in order for them to lend their support. Yasmin did the research and completed all of the paperwork. While the experience may be somewhat scary for a parent, Yasmin’s father, Pedro Martinez-Bravo, says he was comfortable because Rotary was behind the program. To help with finances, Yasmin raised more than \$5,000 from supporters.

Mandy says she was shy and dependent before going on the exchange. As a 16-year-old, she was “scared to death” at the thought of taking the train to Chicago. She considers it an amazing accomplishment to travel by herself in Japan while not being fluent in the language. She is also proud of herself for overcoming her fear of public speaking. “I was terrified of speaking in front of people because of the fear of being judged,” says Mandy. “But because of all the speeches I had to do in Japan in a foreign language, I forgot how it feels to be nervous to speak in public.

“I hope that a lot more students can go on this adventure because it will be an unforgettable experience,” says Mandy. “I think going with Rotary Youth Exchange was the best decision I ever made in my adolescence.” Maia’s advice to other students is “do it!” She says that students who go abroad need to understand the country’s requirements and be sensitive to other cultures. Yasmin says it is not a vacation as some people think. “In the beginning, it is not fun,” says Yasmin. “You don’t know the culture, and it’s harder than going to college.” The students go full circle. “You think you don’t want to leave home, then you do, and then you don’t want to come home,” says Yasmin. “It’s not a year in your life, it’s your life in a year,” says Maia. “If you feel comfortable, you’re not growing.”

Students going “outbound” undergo a rigorous process and are assigned host families through a Rotary Club in the city where they will be living. Students earn language and other credits that count towards their high school graduation requirements and also take some online credits which help them graduate on time. For more information about the Rotary Youth Exchange Program and how to apply, go to <https://www.csrye.org/> or contact Barb Malany at barbmalany@yahoo.com.

“I’m thankful to get the experience,” says Yasmin. “Not many have the courage to do it.”

District Vocational Training Team (VTT) Returns from Zambia

John Gibbons, Rotary Club of Edwardsville, Global Grants/Matching Grants Chair, District 6460

Last November 2018, a District Rotary Vocational Training Team (VTT) flew to Zambia in Africa for 3 weeks and taught 11 local small farmers near Chongwe village improved methods for growing corn. The VTT Project was financed with our District DDF funds matched by a Rotary Foundation Global Grant. The Team was led by farmer PDG Eric Dolbeare, with team members retired agronomist John Meece, and AgriGold Regional Agronomist (and farmer) Todd Steinacher. While there, the VTT Team worked with the Nkwazi Rotary Club in Lusaka, and with African Vision of Hope, a charitable organization that has five K-12 schools and its own farm in Zambia.



The Team found that small farming methods there are primitive, comparable to farming in Illinois 100+ years ago. Many of the farmers have only a hoe as their primary farm implement. The VTT Team helped these farmers improve their production by the proper implementation of modern growing procedures and equipment such as, hybrid corn seed, proper fertilizers, crop protection chemicals, a hand sprayer, and an ox-drawn planter/fertilizer machine. .



Members of the VTT Team and VTT Chair Lee Malany and his son returned to Zambia several times to assist the farmers while the crops were growing, and then returned again after the harvest in May 2019 to measure the crop yields. The results were spectacular – despite suffering from a severe drought, the participating farmers' VTT method crop was on average 230% better than their traditional crop.

Our VTT Program has been successful, assisting local people in Zambia to grow more food to feed their families and neighbors in a country where 40% of the people do not have enough food to eat and many children die of starvation. The participating farmers have all agreed to continue the new way of farming, and to show the methods to at least 3 of their neighbors. Our District needs to sustain and spread the benefits of our VTT program throughout Zambia. The District VTT Committee has plans in place for VTT Team members to return to Zambia this Fall to teach their program to 30 more subsistence farmers, and to

continue in successive crop years until they attain a cadre of 100 to 150 trained and experienced farmers in the Chongwe area. Then a co-op can be formed so that group of farmers can join together for mutual assistance, equipment, purchasing, operational and marketing support.

Our District Governor and District officers have allocated \$15,000 of District funds, and several clubs in the District have also pledged contributions to this second crop- year program. **URGENT NEED -** Please consider making a contribution to help send our VTT Team to Zambia this November to help with the cost of this year's crop and training – contact Global Grants Chair John Gibbons at jjibbons220@gmail.com or VTT Chair Lee Malany, Imalany@juno.com. Plans are also being made for a long-range program to continue and spread this worthy program throughout Zambia.

In the photograph (right), the corn on the left was grown by their traditional method, and the corn on the right was grown by the VTT Team method.





District 6460 Membership/Foundation Report – Rotary Year 2019-2020
November 2019

Rotary Club of:	Membership			Foundation				
	Report through Nov 2019 (YTD) (RI Data - 12/4/2019)			Report through Nov 2019 (YTD) (TRF Data – 10/4/2019)				
	7/1/2019	11/30/2019	Gain/ Loss	Annual Fund Goal	Annual Fund Sent	Other Giving Sent	Endowment Sent	Total Foundation Giving
Abingdon	16	16	0	\$1,000	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200
Aledo	7	7	0	\$100	\$1,000	\$100	\$0	\$1,100
Alton-Godfrey	68	65	-3	\$3,000	\$425	\$0	\$0	\$425
Bethalto	16	18	2	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Bushnell	19	20	1	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
Cambridge	20	20	0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Canton	24	26	2	\$1,000	\$1,350	\$0	\$0	\$1,350
Carlinville	41	43	2	\$3,500	\$589	\$585	\$0	\$1,174
Chillicothe	6	7	1	\$500	\$125	\$0	\$0	\$125
Collinsville, Maryville, Caseyville	25	27	2	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
East Alton	34	35	1	\$1,000	\$150	\$0	\$0	\$150
East Peoria	19	20	1	\$2,000	\$1,525	\$0	\$0	\$1,525
Edwardsville	117	117	0	\$3,000	\$4,175	\$5,700	\$0	\$9,875
Farmington	26	26	0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Galesburg	71	67	-4	\$8,000	\$1,050	\$1,750	\$0	\$2,800
Galesburg Sunrise	38	38	0	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
Galva	27	27	0	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Granite City	23	23	0	\$1,200	\$310	\$0	\$0	\$310
Havana	21	24	3	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highland	63	61	-2	\$7,000	\$2,950	\$0	\$0	\$2,950
Jacksonville	98	100	2	\$13,000	\$4,028	\$745	\$0	\$4,773
Jacksonville Sunrise	13	13	0	\$2,500	\$2,100	\$163	\$0	\$2,263
Jerseyville	23	23	0	\$1,000	\$45	\$0	\$0	\$45
Kewanee	43	51	8	\$1,000	\$200	\$0	\$0	\$200
Land of Goshen	38	39	1	\$2,000	\$43	\$0	\$0	\$43
Macomb	55	59	4	\$6,000	\$4,580	\$200	\$0	\$4,780
Macomb Centennial Morning	57	60	3	\$6,000	\$3,309	\$0	\$0	\$3,309
Manito-Forest City	17	17	0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mason City	10	10	0	\$500	\$540	\$0	\$0	\$540
Menard County	13	18	5	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Metro East Community	24	27	3	\$300	\$0	\$25	\$0	\$25
Midtown Springfield	30	29	-1	\$2,000	\$735	\$0	\$0	\$735
Monmouth	50	51	1	\$1,500	\$100	\$0	\$0	\$100
Morton	109	107	-2	\$7,500	\$4,200	\$0	\$0	\$4,200
Pekin	43	43	0	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Peoria	173	183	10	\$5,000	\$650	\$150	\$0	\$800
Peoria North	149	145	-4	\$32,000	\$5,300	\$3,635	\$0	\$8,935
Pike County	50	54	4	\$4,500	\$500	\$125	\$0	\$625
Quincy	104	101	-3	\$4,000	\$750	\$0	\$0	\$750
Riverbend, The (Alton-Godfrey)	35	34	-1	\$750	\$50	\$100	\$0	\$150
Rushville	20	23	3	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Silver Creek	11	10	-1	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Springfield	75	71	-4	\$9,000	\$2,625	\$2,825	\$0	\$5,450
Springfield South	32	35	3	\$4,000	\$1,951	\$225	\$0	\$2,176
Springfield Sunrise	29	28	-1	\$6,000	\$1,304	\$500	\$0	\$1,804
Springfield Westside	13	13	0	\$0	\$0	\$100	\$0	\$100
Washington	53	50	-3	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Wood River	27	27	0	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
District 6460 Contributions to the Rotary Foundation				\$0	\$0	\$3,250	\$0	\$3,250
District Totals	2075	2108	33	\$157,550	\$49,659	\$20,378	\$0	\$70,037