

Rotary

District 6360



District Newsletter 2024-25 | Mark Odland, Governor

Southwest Michigan, USA

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Message from District Governor Mark Odland

To view Mark's video click here "[Let's finish strong](#)"



RYLA Registration is Open

[Visit the RYLA webpage](#)



Mental Health Awareness: a letter from Jacquie Blackwell, Chair Mental Health Committee

Dear Rotarians,

Perhaps you have personally experienced a mental health episode, or know someone who has.

According to Mental Health First Aid International ...
"almost half of all American adults experience a mental challenge at some point in their life."

If you relate, then you can appreciate the enormity the topic of mental health presents. And, you may appreciate the need to narrow the focus of mental health content into meaningful Rotarian service projects.

You are invited to attend a feasibility meeting to help develop a strategic plan for D6360 Mental Health Committee.

[Read More](#)

Rotary International Assembly

District 6360 Governor-Elect, Jackie Huie, attended the Rotary International Assembly February 9th- 15th, in Orlando with her husband, Assistant Governor Mike Huie, and 530 incoming District Governors from around the world. During the Assembly, Rotary International President-elect Mário César Martins de Camargo asked members to 'Unite for Good' by embracing growth, service, and connection as he outlined a plan to expand "the best-qualified team of volunteers on the planet." *Pictured below:* AG Mike Huie, DGE Jackie Huie, RIPE Mário César Martins de

Camargo and wife, Denise.



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Who is your club's Rotary Hero?

It's time to select your club's Rotary Hero.

Each year, your club is asked to select a member of your club to be your club's Rotary Hero.

Your club's Hero will be honored at this year's District Conference, Saturday evening, May 3, in South Haven.

[Read More](#)

Kyoga Water Project

By Barbara J. Groner

**Rotary D6360 Dowagiac Rotary Club Water Well Project
(Recognizing the help of D6360 grants that made our Uganda water project possible.)**

Thank You, Thank You . . . Success Through Partnering

Members of the Dowagiac Rotary Club and the Interact Club of Dowagiac Union High School recently celebrated the successful completion of a joint international project that gifted a borehole water well to the rural community of Kyoga, Uganda. The KYOGA WATER PROJECT would not have been possible without the support of a Rotary D6360 Foundation Grant, a Karl Sandelin Grant, and several private donations from area Rotarians. Our clubs thank you...and so does our partnering Rotary Club of Mubende Metro, D9213 in Uganda.

Pictured below: Dowagiac Rotarians in a toast to the new borehole Water Well Project in Kyoga, Uganda.

From left to right - Mark Herman, President Steve Zebell, Rick Behnke, Victor Fitz, Katie Marshall, Jennifer Ray, Barbara Groner, Dick Judd and Matt Weston.



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District Leadership Assembly

On Saturday, March 1st, District Leaders gathered for the 2025-26 District Leadership Assembly at the Crawlspace Comedy Theater in Kalamazoo. The venue, located at 315 West Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI, is a fun and lively meeting space managed by Rotary Club of Kalamazoo President-Elect, Dann Sytsma, who opened the Assembly.

Pictured below: The Crawlspace Theater.



During the meeting, District Governor-Elect, Jackie Huie, shared her goals for the coming Rotary year:

- 1) Have Fun
- 2) Grow Membership
- 3) Do more good in the world

She also shared a key goal of Rotary International President, Mário César Martins de Camargo, in that we seek additional ways to invite people into the Rotary family, through hands-on projects, mentoring young professionals, and utilizing Satellite Clubs, Companion Clubs and Enterprise Clubs.

Pictured below: DGE Jackie Huie presenting at the District Leadership Assembly.



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Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club

By Jon D. Lundy

Event in a Box Project

The Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club is a proud sponsor of the Haslett Robotics Club and their efforts to bring STEAM education opportunities to area students through robotics competitions. The "Event-in-a-Box" project helps to improve the experience for teams and supporters at events, including adding live, projected video of matches in the event venue and live-streaming of tournaments. The Rotary Club's sponsorship allows these improvements to be achieved in a way that is sustainable for the Robotics club to maintain in the long-run.

Hosting a competition event is a huge undertaking, staffed entirely by volunteers. Each event involves multiple rounds of primary matches across 2–3 fields, skills challenge matches on additional fields, and judging where engineering notebooks are reviewed and interviews conducted for each team. With events involving 30–50 teams, averaging 5 students and 2 coaches per team, we would have our hands full organizing just the participants, but once spectators are factored in, each event hosts 1,000+ people.

Providing a quality experience for all these people, and especially for the participating students, has become more challenging as our events have gotten larger and the expectations based on events hosted elsewhere have evolved. Many events now provide live video at least within the competition venue to allow spectators to better observe the action on the field, and a growing number are live-streaming their events online for people who might not otherwise be able to attend an event to join in the fun.

Pictured below: The Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club presents a sponsorship check to the Haslett Robotics Club



[Read More](#)

Polio Plus Challenge

Featured at the Rotary International Assembly which was held in Orlando, Florida February 9th -15th; Click here to watch the ["End Polio Now"](#) rally.

To learn more about the Polio Challenge visit <https://www.endpolio.org/>

Support Rotary Direct and earn a bonus!

A special campaign to support Rotary Direct is underway in our district.

Rotary Direct is The Rotary Foundation's online recurring giving program.

Sign up for **Rotary Direct by April 30** and District 6360 will match your cumulative annual gift with recognition points.

[Read More](#)

New District Name Badges

District Governor Nominee Designate and Podcaster, Chris Lewis, models the new metal DGLine badges which all incoming Assistant Governors will also proudly be wearing in the new Rotary year.



Rotary Club of Coldwater Township Sunrise Events

Please join us for the Rotary Club of Coldwater Township Sunrise
21st Annual Rotary Golf Outing

Friday, June 13, 2025

Bella Vista Golf Course

Visit our website for more info

[Rotary Club of Coldwater Township Sunrise](#)

March Information and Reminders

Monthly Membership Meet-Up, Monday, March 3rd at 7:30 p.m. **Eastern**.
March's topic **"The Continuity Challenge"** – perfect timing for PELS season.
Please spread the word. All welcome.

District's latest Membership Growth numbers

By Michael C. Gallagher

District 6360 Club Growth 2024/2025 **+** **40**

Club Type	Club Name	Members July 1, 2024	Members March 3, 2025	Net Change
Rotary Club	Charlotte	54	68	14
Rotary Club	Altam	29	37	8
Rotary Club	Harbor Country (Southwest Benton County)	53	59	6
Rotary Club	Mason	26	34	8
Rotary Club	Portage	57	63	6
Rotary Club	St. Joseph & Benton Harbor	89	95	6
Rotary Club	Charlotte Evening	21	25	4
Rotary Club	Marshall	47	51	4
Rotary Club	Midleville	26	30	4
Rotary Club	Cornel City Sunrise (Battle Creek)	33	36	3
Rotary Club	Climax	22	25	3
Rotary Club	Hawings	71	74	3
Rotary Club	Jackson-Breakfast	19	22	3
Rotary Club	Benton Harbor-Sunrise	37	39	2
Rotary Club	Benton Springs-Eau Claire	25	28	2
Rotary Club	Dowagiac	27	29	2
Rotary Club	East Lansing	35	37	2
Rotary Club	Conestoga	7	8	1
Rotary Club	Gull Lake Area	38	39	1
Rotary Club	Sevastopol-Douglas	39	40	1
Rotary Club	Williamston	39	40	1
Rotary Club	Albion	14	14	0
Rotary Club	Battle Creek	55	55	0
Rotary Club	Caledonia Township Sunrise	59	59	0
Rotary Club	Dutton Area	54	54	0
Rotary Club	East Rapids	32	32	0
Rotary Club	Grand Ledge	41	41	0
Rotary Club	Hillsdale	39	39	0
Rotary Club	Jonesville	21	21	0
Rotary Club	Paw Paw Area	11	11	0
Rotary Club	St. Johns	30	30	0
Rotary Club	Union City	21	21	0
Rotary Club	Fennville Pullman Lakeshore	8	7	(1)
Rotary Club	Kalamazoo and Saletta	105	104	(1)
Rotary Club	Litchfield	10	9	(1)
Rotary Club	Sturgis	18	17	(1)
Rotary Club	Delta Township (Lansing-Waverly)	60	58	(2)
Rotary Club	Oshkosh	21	19	(2)
Rotary Club	Oshtemo	17	15	(2)
Rotary Club	Paw Paw Lake (Coloma Hartford Waterford)	12	10	(2)
Rotary Club	South Haven	62	60	(2)
Rotary Club	South Lansing-East	18	16	(2)
Rotary Club	Three Rivers	54	52	(2)
Rotary Club	Vicksburg + Vicksburg Impact	38	34	(4)
Rotary Club	Haskell-Okemos	38	33	(5)
Rotary Club	Ionia	18	15	(3)
Rotary Club	Jackson	38	33	(5)
Rotary Club	Lakeshore (Baroda-Stevensville-Bridgman)	36	33	(3)
Rotary Club	Pleasant	14	11	(3)
Rotary Club	Lansing	157	150	(7)
TOTAL ROTARY CLUB MEMBERS		1892	1932	40

OUR GOAL IS +100 WE CAN DO IT!

Schedule a program on The Rotary Foundation in your club



The Rotary Foundation is Rotary's most impactful -- and most confusing -- program.

Just a reminder that we have assembled some speakers on The Rotary Foundation who can present a great Rotary Foundation program at your club.

[Read More](#)

Membership Webinars

Membership Webinars

1ST MONDAY OF EACH MONTH @ 7:30PM EST

OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS

March 3, 2025: The Continuity Challenge:
Maintaining your club's momentum for growth

April 7, 2025: Now What?
Sustaining your club's irresistibility

Simply Irresistible
ACTIVATE, INNOVATE, ACCELERATE!
Join us as we act now to grow Rotary!



Submissions welcome to District Newsletter

District newsletters are published the first of each month (focusing on District news and events) and the 15th of each month (focusing on club news and events).

If you have an item you'd like to submit for the newsletter, please send it at least three days prior to the publication date. Submissions can be sent to:

RotaryDistrict6360@gmail.com

We welcome graphics! Please make sure that graphics are in the PNG, or GIF format.

Items can be news from your club, projects, events, and fun things! Thanks for helping make our District newsletter great!

Events

March 8th, 8:30-12:00 PM
[2025-26 Club Presidents Pre-PELS](#)

March 20th, 1:00-9:00 PM
[Great Lakes Rotary PELS - Day 1](#)

March 29th, 9:00-12:00 PM
[D6360 STAFF MEETING](#)

March 10th, 7:00-8:30 PM
[TRF Grant Management Seminar](#)

March 21st, 7:00-8:00 PM
[Great Lakes Rotary PELS - Day 2](#)

March 11th, 6:30-7:15 PM
[Club Presidents' Meeting](#)
March 22nd, 7:00-1:30 PM
[Great Lakes Rotary PELS - Day 3](#)